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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Letters on Paraguay: comprising an Account of Four Years' Residence in that Republic, and the Government of the Dictator Francia. By J. P. and W. P. Robertson. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1838. Murray.

WE hasten to apprise our readers and the public of a very clever work; one in which the intelligence of the merchant lends a charm to the spirit of the traveller, and the observation of practical sense is unusually graced by the vivacity and talent which has been thought more peculiarly to belong to the professional author. Not only have our countrymen seen much with acute vision, but they have described what they saw in a manner which would do credit to any literary reputation. There are in these pages characters and scenes which the author of "Gil Blas" might have owned without a scruple; and yet the staple is as sound and accurate as if the dry details of business had been consulted in the statements. To say that we are extremely pleased with these volumes is saying little: we had no idea, previously, that South America could furnish ought to amuse us so much in its most known features, whilst many new and curious particulars were related of parts of which our knowledge was limited.

We ought to fly at once to Paraguay; but have been so much entertained by the way, that we cannot forego some notice. A portrait of Dr. Francia, and one of the best maps of the country which we have seen, though on a small scale, ushers in the Opening of the Seal, which has so long excluded this country from external notice. The authors set out with an able introductory sketch of the South American Republics; and give us a clear comprehension of their former condition, the means by which it was changed, and the results. One feature may illustrate this:—

"In Chile and Peru, where the estates are large and productive, with a slave or vassal population to farm them,—sometimes, too, with a title of nobility annexed to them,—the possession of landed property, before the revolution, was deemed an enviable privilege, and the management of it a desirable occupation. In those countries, the large landed proprietors looked down upon the merchants as on men of a distinctly inferior grade to their own in society. In Buenos Ayres and Paraguay it was otherwise. The only landed possessions considered of any value in the former place were the large estancias, or cattle-farms. Many of these contained eighty and a hundred square miles of land, and some of them vastly more.* On this whole extent of territory, there was not perhaps to be found more than three or four mud huts, which served as habitations for the ten or fifteen herds who tended the cattle, with one hut of somewhat better construction for the owner of the estate. Each estate of this kind had generally upon it from five to twelve or fifteen thousand head of horned cattle; of which it is calculated

* The Anchorena family is said to be possessed of four hundred square leagues (equal to twelve hundred square miles) of land, in the province of Buenos Ayres; and they derive an annual income of 30,000*l.* from the sale of their surplus cattle."

that the owner may sell, or kill, yearly, one-fourth, and yet increase his stock. The proprietors of the estancias, however, though men of solid property, did not, previously to the revolution, attain to much importance in the community, for the following reasons. In the first place, a limited and restricted commerce kept hides, the produce of their estates, at a very low value. An ox was seldom, before the revolution, worth more than four shillings: so that even if one of the most wealthy of them, with 15,000 head of cattle on his estate, killed, or sold, the fourth part, annually, his income did not exceed 800*l.* a-year. In the second place, small as their incomes were, they did not spend the half of them. In most cases, unfortunately, a large proportion was absorbed by gambling. In town they lived in obscurity, while, in the country, like the peons, or herds, by whom they were surrounded, they had a mud hut for their dwelling,—beef, and little more than beef, for their diet. In the third place, they were almost all natives of the country, rustic in manners, and rude in scholarship and address,—being possessed of the merest rudiments of a grammar-school education. They were without the learning, scanty as it was, of either the priest or the lawyer; and without the means, therefore, of interposing that qualification to the claims of superiority ever put forward by the haughty natives of Old Spain, and by the better educated classes of the estanciero's own countrymen. The estanciero, or landed cattle proprietor, feeling his inferiority, and taking his station in society accordingly, had his solace, and his recreation in his own solitary avocations, and in the occasional society of those of his own class, with whom he could expatiate upon fat herds of cattle,—fine years for pasture,—horses more fleet than the ostrich or the deer,—the dexterity of those who could best, from the saddle, throw their noose, or lasso, over the horns of a wild bull,—or of him who could make the nicest pair of boots from the skin stripped off the legs of a patro, or wild colt. A good, substantial, roughly finished house in town, very little furniture in it: a large, sleek, fat horse, on which to ride; a poncho, or loose amplitude of camelot stuff, with a hole in the centre of it for his head, and falling from his shoulders over his body; large silver spurs, and the head-piece of his bridle heavily overlaid with the same metal; a coarse hat fastened with black leather thongs under his chin; a tinderbox, steel, and flint, with which to light his cigar; a knife in his girdle, and a swartly pipe behind him, with the unroasted ribs of a fat cow, for provision, under his saddle; constituted the most solid comfort, and met the most luxurious aspirations of the estanciero, or Buenos Ayres country gentleman. When thus equipped and provided, he could take to the plains, and see a large herd of cattle grazing in one place, and in another, hear them lowing in the distance; and when he could look round for uninterrupted miles upon rich pastures, all his own,—his joy was full, his ambition satisfied; and he was willing at once to forget and to forego the tasteless enjoyments and cumbrous distinctions of artificial society.

Thus lived, and thus was the country gentleman of the river Plate educated, before the revolution. He is now greatly improved in manners, fortune, and mode of life; and he is rising gradually, but surely, to that influence to which a greatly increased and increasing value of property naturally leads. His cattle, which before the revolution were worth only four shillings a-head, are now worth twenty; and for these twenty he can buy double the quantity, both of the necessities and luxuries of life (his own commodity of cattle always excepted), which he could procure for them before. Comfort and convenience in his town residence are now as necessary to him and his family as to the other classes of the community. He mixes more freely in general society, takes a share in the affairs and offices of state, educates his children more liberally; and though the estanciero himself may still adhere to many of his primitive and favourite habits, yet many a rich estanciero's wife and daughters are to be seen driving about in handsome and modern-built carriages of their own."

The following is a general modern view. "To attempt to define the nature and extent of the power of the executive in these countries, would not only be difficult, but impossible. One day you find the governor shooting a man upon his own responsibility, and the next, applying to congress for leave to celebrate high mass, or increase the salary of a clerk in the government offices. A few days after this, he perhaps dissolves the congress altogether. The extent of naval and military force at the disposal of the different governments of South America varies, according to a variety of circumstances. Peru may keep under arms, in ordinary times, five or six thousand men. Chile may maintain about three or four thousand; and Buenos Ayres, four or five. Paraguay keeps about three thousand; and the east side of the river Plate, or Banda Oriental, will support a similar number. The force of Mexico is about eight thousand men, and of Columbia, six or seven. These troops are partly cavalry, partly infantry. There are large trains of artillery in the country, though not many practised artillery-men. They have abundance of arms and ammunition of all kinds; and could, in each of the provinces, in case of emergency, call into the field a large body of militia and guerilla troops, chiefly mounted.

The natives (we rejoice to be told, for there is much of future hope in it,) are a frank and warm-hearted people; and the blunt manners and honest principles of John Bull have always had charms for them. They commingle as if of one nation. The English have never taken any further part in the political dissensions of the country than that of affording, indiscriminately, an asylum to the chiefs and adherents of all sides, when in personal danger; and this even-handed humanity has won much upon the inhabitants at large. The English have been longest in the country; their numbers preponderate over those of other foreigners; and their trade is by far the most extensive and advantageous which the natives enjoy."

But we must not be delayed too long on the road; and though the travel from Buenos

Ayres to Assumption (1811) is so entertaining that we must, if possible, return to it, we will now, leaving Santa Fé and Corrientes, cross the noble river Paraná, and enter Paraguay with our merchant-countryman, to whom a vessel laden with merchandise ascended the stream.*

The first halt in Paraguay is very primitive and interesting:—

"I crossed the Paraná (says the writer) at the Paso del Rey; slept at Curupaiti, and, early next morning, entered the village of Neembucú. Here I was received by the commandant and curate with the usual hospitality. Both became subsequently my intimate friends; and some specimens of the correspondence of the former, which we preserve, are such rare models of epistolary style, in their way, as well to merit a place in print. You shall have a translation of one or two of the commandant's letters, if we can find room for them. Neembucú is the first establishment or comandancia to which, on the line of road that I travelled, you come in Paraguay. I was now in the country, properly so called; hemmed in by the river Paraguay on one hand, and by the Paraná on the other. As I proceeded onwards to Assumption, just skirting the territory of the Misiones, till I crossed the river Tibiquari, in lat. 26° 30', I soon recognised a striking difference between the character of the country in which I now was, and that of any part over which I had hitherto travelled. The open Pampa was exchanged for the shady grove; the pastures, protected by the trees, and irrigated by abundant streams, were in most places beautifully green; the palm-tree was a frequent occupant of the plain; hills, and more gently sloping eminences, contrasted beautifully with the valley and the lake. Wooded from the base to the top, those hills and slopes exhibited now the stately forest-tree, and anon the less-aspiring shrub, the lime, and the orange, each bearing, at the same time, both blossom and fruit. The fig-tree spread its broad dark leaf, and offered its delicious fruit to the traveller without money and without price; while the parasite plant lent all its variety of leaf and flower to adorn the scene. Pendent from the boughs of many of the trees was to be seen, and yet more distinctly known by its fragrance, the air-plum. Squirrels leaped, and monkeys chattered among the branches; the parrot and parakeet, the pheasant, the moitú, the tocan, the humming-bird, the guacamayo or cockatoo, and innumerable others described by Azara, inhabited, in all their gaudy variety of plumage, the woods through which I rode. There is one noble bird which

* "Of this immense tract of water, fifteen hundred miles are navigable by vessels drawing ten feet. The river abounds with fish, from its mouth to its source. The pexery (king's fish), the dorado, mullet, pachi (a sort of turbot), and many others, are found in it; its banks are for the most part richly studded with wood; its various islands are adorned with beautiful shrubs, evergreens, creepers, &c.; the woods abound with game, and the adjacent country teems with cattle. The waters are highly salubrious; the soil all along the banks of the river, with the exception of the Great Chaco, is rich and fertile in the highest degree; but notwithstanding all these advantages—notwithstanding that the country has been for three hundred years in the possession of a civilised European nation—after I had galloped two hundred and eighty leagues, I did not see above four or five small towns. Not more than a like number of vessels were to be descried on my route, while at every fifteen miles distance a miserable hut, with its half-dressed inhabitants, was alone interposed to relieve the monotony of the scene. From this charge you may except, as you would the oasis in the desert, the relaxation afforded by my residence at Santa Fé, and by my day's good living and rural revelry at Candelotti's estancia. The secret of all the silence, solitude, and abandonment of Nature to herself which I saw and lamented, is of course to be traced to the inadequate means which have hitherto been used to provide even a subsistence of the population necessary to cover a country of such vast fertility and extent."

tenants them, that I never elsewhere saw, except on the lake or on its banks. That bird is the pato real, or royal duck, nearly the size of a goose, but of plumage rich and varied. The lakes are covered with wild fowl, the marshes with water-hens and snipes. On the pastures grounds you have the large partridge, and on the cultivated enclosures, in great abundance, the small one, or quail. As I pursued my journey through a country so substantially favoured, and so highly adorned by Nature, I was glad to meet with much more frequent traces of cultivation and industry than were to be found in the solitary tracts over which I had heretofore sped my monotonous way. Whitewashed cottages often peeped from among the trees, and around them were considerable fields of the cotton, yucca, and tobacco plants. The Indian corn and sugar-cane were also frequently to be seen in the vicinity of farm-houses of a better character than the cottages; and there was abundance of wood, and of the prickly pear. With the latter, the cultivated country, as well as the potreros or paddocks, were invariably well fenced. I was much struck by the amazing simplicity and urbanity of the inhabitants. At the first cottage at which I stopped for the night (and it was of the better class), I asked, as I alighted, for a little water. It was brought to me in an earthen jug by the master of the house, who stood in the most respectful attitude, with his hat in hand, while I drank. It was in vain that I requested him to be covered: he would not listen to my remonstrance; and I saw, in the course of the evening, that his male children were all trained to a similar observance. The female ones respectfully crossed their arms over their bosoms, as they waited on either their parents or strangers while they ate and drank.

"I had been struck, as I approached the house, by a singular erection immediately near it. The trunks of four palm-trees, about fifteen feet in height, were driven as stakes into the ground, at intervals which constituted a square of about twenty feet. Between each palm-tree was an intermediate post of equal height, supporting rafters which formed the frame-work of the roof. Over this were spread coarse straw mats, of Indian manufacture. The place had the appearance of a high stage, and there was connected with it a long ladder, reaching from the ground to the roof. We supped plentifully upon milk, yucca-root, honey, and a full-grown lamb, roasted entire. Immediately after supper, the numerous family of our host came up to him, and, raising their closed hands, in the attitude of prayer, said in Guarani, 'Your blessing, my father.' The old man moved his hand, so as to describe with it the figure of a cross, and said to each of his offspring in succession, 'God bless you, my son,' or 'my daughter,' as the case might be. He had a family of nine children, of whom the oldest, a fine young woman, as fair as a European, might be twenty-two; and the youngest, a little Paraguay Gaucho, about eight. They did the same afterwards to their mother, and received from her a similar benediction. Great was my delight in seeing realised, by the children of modern days, this patriarchal homage to their parents; and not less was my surprise when, immediately afterwards, I saw them mounting, one by one, up the steep ladder to the top of the stage, and there, after unloosing their slender garments, lying down to repose for the night. Gomez told me that *we* were to sleep up there too, '*para evitar los mosquitos*,' 'in order to avoid the mosquitos;' and no sooner had he informed me that they never rose so high as the roof of the stage,

than I mounted with an alacrity not easily conceivable but by those who have been martyrs to the blistering attacks and tormenting hum of those insatiable insects. While we sat at the cottage-door, we had suffered not a little from their bites, and been annoyed by their constant and teasing buzz about our ears. *Mirabile dictu!* No sooner had I attained the enviable eminence, where now, outstretched in sound repose, lay the good man's family, than not a single mosquito or insect of any other kind was to be felt. Up came Gomez; up came the host and his wife; up came three peons; and, finally, up came the ladder. The horses wanted for the morning were fastened to stakes, and eating their pasture near the house; the cattle were in the corral, the sheep too; the cocks and hens were all at roost; the dogs lay outstretched, like so many watchmen, asleep, but, unlike them, on the alert; the doors of the house were all left open for the admission of the cool air of the night; there were no thieves abroad, but one or two of the yaguars, not bold enough to approach this family colony; and just as the half-moon was beginning to shed her faint but soft beams upon the trees, and the stars to shine forth, the whole family,—wife, children, strangers, servants, cattle, dogs, and fowls of the rural and really patriarchal Paraguay swain,—sank into repose under the canopy of heaven. The good company thus outstretched beneath the pale moon, consisted of

The Paraguayan's children, in number.....	9
of their father and mother	2
of Gomez, myself, servant, and postilion	4
and of peons	3

in all, eighteen; accommodated, without the aid of either bed or bedding, on twelve yards' square of wicker-work, covered with a mat, and at an elevation of fifteen feet above the level of the ground. Only think of people sleeping thus at a gentleman's country-house in England! The first claxon of the cock was the signal for a general rubbing of eyes, and turning from one side to another. There was no folding of the arms for 'a little more sleep, and a little more slumber.' The family-party had gone to rest at eight, and they were now to rise at five. There was no toilet preparation made at this time: that was managed at the brook five hours afterwards. Down went the ladder, down went the no-longer recumbent members of the family; and strangers too; lowering from the corral went forth the cattle, and bleating from their fold the sheep; the cocks crowed; the dogs frisked; the young women went to milk the cows, the young men to saddle the horses; and Gomez and myself, with our servant and postilion, to see our travelling equipments put in order. In one moment, a scene of the deepest repose was converted into one of the most stirring bustle and rural activity. We took our maté, a jar of warm milk, and a cigar; and, in less than an hour from the time of our waking, we were once more *en route* for Assumption. We first, however, bade a hearty and grateful adieu to our exemplary host. We had never seen the man before. He knew nothing of me, but that I belonged to a hostile nation that, not many years before, had invaded his country; and yet he entertained me and my suite upon principles of open-handed hospitality, which, scorning the notion of reward, were only satisfied by the giving of his own and of his children's personal and respectful attendance upon his guests. Nor was this a partial case: I found it the same throughout the country."

[To be continued.]

Speeches of Henry Lord Brougham, upon Questions relating to Public Rights, Duties, and Interests; with Historical Introductions, and a Critical Dissertation upon the Eloquence of the Ancients. 4 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, A. and C. Black: London, Longman and Co.; Ridgway; C. Knight.

WE know not to what to liken the various and luxuriant contents of these volumes. To a great Forest, in which every thing seems to grow—wild, stately, o'erspreading; with lowly shrubs and magnificent trees, and parasites too, and briars, and thorns, and blossoms, and fruits; all that a fertile soil might produce, the winds of tempest wave and twist, or the gentler breath of heaven fan into grace and beauty? If the simile apply, we may say of it in the language of Macbeth, that it is "a moving Wood."

But, without seeking for comparisons, it may truly be declared, that the powers of an extraordinary mind are, in these pages, shed over many subjects of much interest and importance. Military Punishments, the Policy of the Impeachment of Queen Caroline, the Law of Libel, Commerce and Manufactures, Agriculture, Home and Foreign Politics as involved in a number of perplexed and disputed questions; the Slave Trade and Slavery, Law and Parliamentary Reforms, Education, Poor Laws, Mechanics' Institutes, Ireland, Canada, and several other minor matters, are all submitted to the alembic of this potent experimenter, and strange and wonderful are the eloquent spells he has wrought upon and by them. We might readily pen a very true dissertation upon Lord Brougham's genius and style—upon his logical force, his peculiarities, his biting taunts, his withering sarcasms, his personalities, his boldness, his occasional irritability or want of temper, his potent oratory, and other qualities which have distinguished his forensic efforts, his House of Commons' effusions, and his later aristocratic performances; but every newspaper teems with the illustrations, and remark and criticism have been exhausted on the theme.* We shall, therefore, willingly leave such task to the wordy repeaters of obvious and bygone platitudes, in which to display, if not their wisdom or talent, at least, their capacity for filling up paper, and content ourselves with very briefly noticing what is new in these volumes; viz., the Introductions to the Speeches and the concluding Essay. The former are rather biographical than historical, and the latter is chiefly curious as a sort of intimation, that the writer puts forth his ideas of Demosthenes, Cicero, &c. as a challenge whereby to test his own speeches—since he who can so perfectly explain the art in others, ought himself to be taken as a consummate artist.

In his Preface, Lord Brougham makes the following pregnant observations:—

"It is conceived that some good service may be rendered to the cause of human improvement, which the author has ever had so much at heart, by the present publication, because its tendency is to fix the public attention upon some of the subjects most important to the interests of mankind. The repression, or at least the subjugation, of party feelings, must be always of material benefit to the community, and tend to remove a very serious obstruction from the great course in which legislation is advancing. Party connexion is indeed beneficial as long as it only binds together those who, having

formed their opinions for themselves, are desirous of giving them full effect. But so much of abuse has generally attended such leagues, that reflecting men are now induced to reject them altogether. Their greatest evil certainly is the one most difficult to be shunned—their tendency to deliver over the many to the guidance of the few, in matters where no dominion ever should be exercised—to make the opinions adopted by leading men pass current, without any reflection among their followers—to enfeeble and corrupt the public mind, by discouraging men from thinking for themselves—and to lead multitudes into courses which they have no kind of interest in pursuing, in order that some designing individuals may gain by their folly or their crimes. As society advances, such delusions will become more and more difficult to practise; and it may safely be affirmed, that hundreds nowadays discharge the sacred duty to themselves and their country, of forming their own opinions upon reflection, for one that had disenthralled himself thirty years ago."

And the Introduction lets us a little into the context. His Lordship is speaking of the attempt to stop the trial of Queen Caroline, and he says—

"All without perhaps one exception, both of the government and of both houses, abhorred the measure; and if they could have been sure that throwing it out immediately, would not have occasioned a change of ministry, assuredly the bill would never have remained one hour in existence. But then, as in much later times, the great fear was of letting in the opposition; and Tories were daily seen abandoning their whole principles, upon the pretence that they had no other way of preventing what, to their eyes, seemed the most formidable of all events,—exactly as in the present day we have seen Whigs giving up their most sacred opinions one after another, and attaching not the weight of a feather to retrenchment, and popular rights, and the progress of reform, and the rights of colonies, and the maintenance of peace, and the extinction of slavery, and the prevention of the slave trade itself, when weighed in the balance against the one evil of a change which should let in their adversaries, and turn out their patrons from the dispensation of court favour."

The personal sketches, where the noble orator describes men who were intimately connected with the measures to which his speeches were addressed, are interesting; though his brush is dipped in the colours which agree with the hue of his own opinions. Thus, Bentham, Canning, Lord Dudley, Huskisson, Zachary Macaulay, Clarkson, Wilberforce, Romilly, Horner, &c. &c. are painted; and a bit of Bentham may serve as a key to the whole.

"Acute, sagacious, reflecting, suspicious to a fault of all outward appearances, nor ever to be satisfied without the most close, sifting, unsparring scrutiny, he had an industry which no excess of toil could weary, and applied himself with as unremitting perseverance to master every minute portion of each subject, as if he had not possessed a quickness of apprehension which could at a glance become acquainted with all its general features. In him were blended, to a degree perhaps unequalled in any other philosopher, the love and appreciation of general principles, with the avidity for minute details; the power of embracing and following out general views, with the capacity for pursuing each one of numberless particular facts. His learning was various, extensive, and accurate. History, and of all nations and all ages, was familiar to him, generally in the languages in which it was recorded. With the poets and

orators of all times he was equally well acquainted, though he undervalued the productions of both. The writings of the philosophers of every country, and of every age, were thoroughly known to him, and had deeply occupied his attention. It was only the walks of the exacter sciences that he had not frequented; and he regarded them, very erroneously, as unworthy of being explored, or valued them only for the inventions useful to common life which flowed from them, altogether neglecting the pleasures of scientific contemplation which form their main object and chief attraction. In the laws of his own country he was perfectly well versed, having been educated as a lawyer, and called to the English bar, at which his success would have been certain, had he not preferred the life of a sage. Nor did he rest satisfied with the original foundations of legal knowledge which he had laid while studying the system; he continually read whatever appeared on the subject, whether the decisions of our courts, or the speculations of juridical writers; so as to continue conversant with the latest state of the law in its actual and practical administration. Though living retired from society, he was a watchful and accurate observer of every occurrence, whether political, or forensic, or social, of the day; and no man who lived so much to himself, and devoted so large a portion of his time to solitary study, could have been supposed to know so perfectly, even in its more minute details, the state of the world around him, in which he hardly seemed to live, and did not at all move. But of all his qualities, the one that chiefly distinguished Mr. Bentham, and was the most fruitful in its results, was the boldness with which he pursued his inquiries. Whatever obstacle opposed his course, be it little or be it mighty—from what quarter soever the resistance proceeded—with what feelings soever it was allied, be they of a kind that leave men's judgment calm and undisturbed, or of a nature to suspend the reasoning faculty altogether, and overwhelm opposition with a storm of unthinking passion—all signified nothing to one who, weighing principles and arguments in golden scales, held the utmost weight of prejudice, the whole influence of a host of popular feelings, as mere dust in the balance, when any the least reason loaded the other end of the beam. And, if this was at once the distinguishing quality of his mind, and the great cause of his success, so was it also the source of nearly all his errors, and the principal obstacle to the progress of his philosophy. For it often, especially in the latter part of his life, prevented him from seeing real difficulties and solid objections to his proposals; it made him too regardless of the quarter from which opposition might proceed; it gave an appearance of impracticability to many of his plans; and, what was far more fatal, it rendered many of his theories wholly inapplicable to any existing, and almost to any possible state of human affairs, by making him too generally forget that all laws must both be executed by, and operate upon, men—men, whose passions and feelings are made to the lawyer's hand, and cannot all at once be moulded to his will. The same undaunted boldness of speculation led to another and a kindred error. He pushed every argument to the uttermost; he strained each principle till it cracked; he loaded all the foundations on which his system was built, as if, like arches, they were strengthened by the pressure, until he made them bend and give way beneath the superincumbent weight. A provision; whether of political or of ordinary law, had no merit in

* We were much amused this very (Friday) morning by the opinion of a Scotch gentleman on the subject. "I was (said he) in the House of Lords yesternight, and, by G—, I heard yon Brougham on the Canadas; he's joost an awfu debater, and perfidly skinned Lord Durham, and the meenistry."

his eyes, if it admitted of any exception, or be-tokened any bending of principles to practical facilities. He seemed oftentimes to resemble the mechanic who should form his calculations and fashion his machinery upon the abstract consideration of the mechanical powers, and make no allowance for friction, or the resistance of the air, or the strength of the materials. Among the many instances that might be given of this defect, it may be sufficient to single out one from his juridical, and one from his political speculations. Perceiving the great benefits of individual responsibility in a judge, he peremptorily rejected all but what he termed single-seated justice, and would allow no merit whatever to any tribunal composed of more, either for weighing conflicting evidence, assessing the amount of compensation, or reversing the judgments of a single inferior judge. Holding also the doctrine of universal suffrage, he would have no exception whatever; and argued not only that women, but that persons of unsound mind, should be admitted to vote in the choice of representatives. The greater qualities of Mr. Bentham's understanding have been described; but he also excelled in the light works of fancy. An habitual despiser of eloquence, he was one of the most eloquent of men when it pleased him to write naturally, and before he had adopted that harsh style, full of involved periods and new-made words, which, how accurately soever it conveyed his ideas, was almost as hard to learn as a foreign language. Thus his earlier writings are models of force as well as of precision; but some of them are also highly rhetorical; nor are the justly celebrated 'Defence of Usury' and 'Protest against Law Taxes,' more finished models of moral demonstration, than the 'Address to the French National Assembly on Colonial Emancipation,' is of an eloquence at once declamatory and argumentative. The peculiar manner of scrutinising every subject into which he latterly fell, which, indeed, he adopted during the greater portion of his life, and which has been happily enough termed the 'exhaustive mode,' was little adapted to combine with eloquence, or with any kind of discussion calculated to produce a great popular effect; for it consisted in a careful examination of every circumstance which could by any possibility affect either side of a given question, and it gave the same expansion to all considerations, however varying in point of importance; whereas, to convince or to strike an audience, or a cursory reader, nothing can be more essentially necessary than the selection of the more important objects, and making them stand boldly out in relief above the rest. Another consequence of his addiction to this method was, that it impaired his strength both of memory and of reasoning. He investigated with a pen in his hand, trusted to his eye as much as to his recollection, and enfeebled his powers of abstract attention pretty much as analysts are apt to become less powerful reasoners and investigators than geometers. It thus happened that, although he disliked conversation in which more than one joined, confining himself to a *l'le-a-l'le*, or what he termed 'single-handed conversation,' he exceedingly disrelished, at least for the last thirty years of his life, any thing like argument, preferring anecdote, or remark, or pleasantry, in which last he was, though sometimes happy, yet often unsuccessful. But, as not unfrequently happens, he felt far more jealous of any disrespect shewn to the jokes with which his later writings were filled, than of any dissent from his reasonings, although the

former were, for the most part, overlaboured, farfetched, and lumbering. It was a result of similar prejudices that made him undervalue not only eloquence, but poetry; and he was wont to express his thankfulness that we should never see any more epic poems. That he might greatly prefer other exertions of original genius to those which have produced the wonders of song, is easily understood. But that he should deny the existence of the pleasure derived from works of imagination, or question the reality of the desire, or refuse it gratification, seems wholly incomprehensible, and only the more so, because his whole theory of motives proceeds upon the assumption, that man's constitution leads him to take delight in certain enjoyments; and no one surely can doubt the fact of the fine arts giving pleasure—pleasure, too, of a refined, not of a gross description. Nor could the devotion of some men's talents to poetry be rationally grudged, when it was considered how few those are whom such pursuits can ever withdraw from severer studies, and how often they are persons in whom such studies would find ungenial dispositions. The moral character of this eminent person was, in the most important particulars, perfect and unblemished. His honesty was unimpeachable, and his word might, upon any subject, be taken as absolutely conclusive, whatever motives he might have for distorting or exaggerating the truth. But he was, especially of late years, of a somewhat jealous disposition—betrayed impatience if to another was ascribed any part whatever of the improvements in jurisprudence, which all originated in his own labours, but to effect which different kinds of men were required—and even shewed some disinclination to see any one interfere, although as a coadjutor, and for the furtherance of his own designs. It is said that he suffered a severe mortification in not being brought early in life into parliament; although he must have felt that a worse service never could have been rendered to the cause he had most at heart, than to remove him from his own peculiar sphere to one in which, even if he had excelled, he yet never could have been nearly so useful to mankind. It is certain that he shewed, upon many occasions, a harshness as well as coldness of disposition towards individuals to whose unremitting friendship he owed great obligations; and his impatience to see the splendid reforms which his genius had projected, accomplished before his death, increasing as the time of his departure drew nigh, made him latterly regard even his most familiar friends only as instruments of reformation, and gave a very unamiable, and, indeed, a revolting aspect of callousness to his feelings towards them. For the sudden and mournful death of one old and truly illustrious friend, he felt, as he expressed, no pain at all; towards the person of a more recent friend he never concealed his disrespect, because he disappointed some extravagant hopes which he had formed, that the bulk of a large fortune, acquired by honest industry, would be expended in promoting parliamentary influence to be used in furthering great political changes. Into all these unamiable features of his character, every furrow of which was deepened, and every shade darkened by increasing years, there entered nothing base or hypocritical. If he felt little for a friend, he pretended to no more than he felt. If his sentiments were tinged with asperity and edged with spite, he was the first himself to declare it; and no one formed a less favourable, or a more just judgment of his weaknesses, than he himself did; nor did any one pronounce such judgments

with a severity that exceeded the confessions of his own candour. Upon the whole, then, while, in his public capacity, he presented an object of admiration and of gratitude, in his private character he was formed rather to be respected and studied, than beloved."

This long extract must confine our sequel; but we cannot omit a short specification of Lord Brougham's views on the important subject of national education. In a dedication to Dr. Birkbeck, he writes,—

"You are aware that they contain a portion of a larger discourse, which more pressing but less agreeable pursuits have long prevented me from finishing, upon the important subject of Popular Education, in its three branches, Infant Schools, Elementary Schools for reading and writing, and Adult Schools. It is only with the second of these branches that the legislature can safely interfere. Any meddling on the part of government with the first would be inexpedient;* with the last, perilous to civil and religious liberty. In conformity with this opinion, I have brought the question of Elementary Education repeatedly before parliament, where the lukewarmness of many, and the honest and by me ever-to-be-respected scruples of some, have hitherto much obstructed my design; at the other two branches belong to the country at large."

In the introduction to the Edinburgh speech at the Grey festival, Lord Brougham states, that both his and Lord Durham's sentiments have been misrepresented, and it thus concludes:—

"Nothing was ever more absolutely false than to represent Lord Durham as having said anything in the least resembling an attack on Lord Brougham, at the Edinburgh dinner, where alone Lord Brougham was present. It may be added, that Lord Brougham has ever since pursued the very same course with respect to Reform which the following speech recommends. It would be incorrect to say that Lord Durham has materially altered the opinion above given upon the same subject; but assuredly he has very much moderated, and very wisely moderated the tone of his remarks, both as to the question of time and of compromise; nor has he made any protest to Reform being laid on the shelf by the government."

We have left ourselves no room to speak of the dissertation on ancient eloquence, but we may recommend it, as well as the translations which accompany it, to the best attention of readers, from members of parliament, to vestry, common-hall, post-prandial, and all other public or private orators.

The City of the Czar; a Visit to St. Petersburg, in the Winter of 1829-30. By Thos. Raikes, Esq. 8vo. London, 1838. Bentley.

THIS volume reminds us of the class of Travels some forty years ago, and the best of that class, when well-informed gentlemen gave the world pleasing accounts of their "whereabouts," and communicated many agreeable and useful observations in an unaffected and amusing style. Mr. Raikes is, indeed, a very companionable traveller, and we cheerfully "go a-head" with him wherever he goes. The journey to Petersburg, however, has nothing to interest; and, therefore, we at once plant ourselves there, and cast a retrospect over the fate of its late powerful ruler, Alexander, of whom the author says:

"For more than a twelvemonth before his death, the necessity of the legislature promoting infant schools has, since 1825, become apparent to all, and must be allowed to have far outstripped the measure here referred to."

death, he kept aloof from his capital, or, when there, lived in complete retirement; rumours of plots and conspiracies were vaguely whispered in his ear, which only affected him as galling proofs of that perverse spirit which could so ill appreciate the wisdom and purity of his own intentions. Those frequent journeys to the Crimea were mere efforts to divert his thoughts, and prevent the mind, by change of scene, from pondering on the gloomy visions which hourly assailed him. Disgusted with mankind, he became disgusted with life itself. In his last tour to the provinces, when he arrived at Taganrod, he was seized with an attack of bilious fever, which, from the first, assumed an alarming character; while his constitution, weakened by mental sufferings, was little able to resist the progress of a disease which soon terminated his valuable existence. Far from repining at his premature fate, he hailed the approach of death with inward satisfaction; no intreaties could induce him to take any internal medicine; local applications were used by his physicians, but, with little effect; he himself refused to contribute to his cure; and quitted, without one sigh of regret, a scene of worldly grandeur and pre-eminence which had lost all value in his estimation. Such was the cruel end of Alexander, a few years after we had seen him in England, crowned with victory, and loaded with every gift which Fortune could lavish on her most favoured child. Those extensive conspiracies, the apprehension of which destroyed the happiness, and shortened the days of his brother, broke forth into acts of open mutiny and sedition on the accession of Nicholas to the throne. His firmness of character and personal bravery averted them into silence; but there was a fearful moment at that period, when the tranquillity of the whole empire was most seriously endangered. I shall, by degrees, learn more details on this interesting subject; but, every thing proves that the plans of the conspirators were deeply laid, and the fidelity of the army compromised to an alarming extent. From that hour was decided the war with Turkey; which has served to occupy and soothe the public mind with bulletins of success, and, at the same time, give active employment to those mutinous regiments whose leisure in time of peace had been directed to such sinister purposes. Even now that a campaign of two years has thinned the ranks of the army, and at last realised by unexpected success the dreams of conquest so long entertained by the Empress Catherine, it is evident that a feeling of discontent prevails here, on account of the moderate advantage which has been derived from the late victories. The nation, in fact, is founded on military principles; it wants conquest, plunder, and excitement abroad, while the government wishes for peace, tranquillity, and reformation at home."

Among the sights of Petersburg, Mr. R. visited the churches; and he tells us—

"The vault of the Scherematoff family is an object of the greatest curiosity. It is as large as a ball-room, and warmed by stoves constantly heated; no damp can approach these mouldering remains, enshrined in tombs of or-molu, beautifully chased; and though some are more than a hundred years old, though their tenants have already crumbled into dust, these costly monuments still remain fresh and unimpaired as they came from the hands of the workman."

Among the living scenes—

"I met last night, at Baron Rehausen's,

the Byron of Russia; his name is Ponschkin, the celebrated, and, at the same time, the only poet in this country. His fame is established and unrivalled; no competitor attempts to win the laurel from his brow. His poems are read with delight by his countrymen, who alone can appreciate their merit; and his labours are not without reward,—he can always command ten roubles for every line from his publisher. In such a dearth of literature and literary taste, it will be no great injustice to suppose that his compositions may be overrated by his readers; and, as his genius is not likely to be excited by emulation, they will probably not be voluminous, particularly as, content with his present fame, he seldom has recourse to his muse except when his finances begin to fail. I could observe nothing remarkable in his person or manners; he was slovenly in his appearance, which is sometimes the failing of men of talent, and avowed openly his predilection for gambling; the only notable expression, indeed, which dropped from him during the evening was this, '*J'aime-rais mieux mourir que ne pas jouer.*' Though a decided liberal, and *sourtement* implicated in the late conspiracy, he has always been treated with great attention and kindness by the emperor; his muse, also, was enlisted in the revolutionary cause, and produced a poem which, under such circumstances, no other despotie sovereign could ever have forgotten or forgiven. It made a great sensation here: it bears the trait of genius; and, as it has never been printed, I have obtained a copy of the French translation.

'*Le Poignard.*

'*Le Dieu de Lemnos t'a forgé pour les mains de l'immortelle Nemesis. Oh! Poignard vengeur, mystérieux gardien de la liberté, dernier juge de la violence et de l'opprobre! Lorsque la foudre divine est muette, lorsque le glaive des loix est rouillé, tu brilles, tu viens réaliser les espérances ou les malédictions! L'ombre du trône, la pourpre des habits de fête, dérobent en vain ton éclat aux regards du scélérat que tu menaces! Son œil épouvanté te pressent, et te cherche au milieu des repas splendides. Tes coups inévitables le trouvent, et sur les routes, et sur les flots, près des autels, et sous la tente; malgré le rempart des verrous, et sur un lit de repos, et dans les bras de sa famille. Le Rubicon sacré bouillonne, franchi par César; Rome succombe; la loi n'est plus qu'un vain fantôme! Soudain Brutus se lève, et César meurt, abattu aux pieds de Pompée, que réjouit son dernier soupir. De nos jours la Proscription ténébreuse, enfant de la Révolte, poussoit des cris sanguinaires. Un bourreau hideux veilloit auprès du cadavre mutilé de la Liberté nationale: cet apôtre du carnage envoyoit les plus nobles victimes à l'Enfer insatiable, mais le tribunal des Cieux te remit à l'Euménide vengeresse. Oh, Sand! martyr de l'indépendance, meurtrier libérateur! Que le billet soit le terme de ta vie, la Vertu ne consacre moins ta cendre proscrire: un souffle divin s'y conserve encore; ton ombre courageuse plane sur le pays si cher à ton cœur, elle menace toujours la force usurpatrice; et sur ton auguste mausolée, brille, au lieu d'épithaphe, un poignard sans inscription.' Under so arbitrary a government I know not which is most extraordinary,—the audacity of the poet who composed, or the magnanimity of the sovereign who overlooked, such a violent and treasonable production."*

"At the time these letters were written, Pouschkin was still one of the disaffected at Petersburg; but the

Education is a great subject with us at home; may not a hint be taken from the North as Bell did from the East?

"In every parish, the priests are enjoined to maintain schools for the children from six to ten years old: the father of a child who distinguishes himself by application and intelligence, has a claim for certain diminutions in his tribute, or in his manual labour."

We pass to another interesting national scene.

"Yesterday was the Russian New Year's day: it was celebrated by a *fête* which can be seen in no other country: it is a *fête* original, extraordinary, and characteristic of the nation. The sovereign and his family commence the new year by an assembly given to the people; not less than twenty-five thousand invitations are issued to this gigantic rout. At seven o'clock in the evening the doors of the winter palace and of the hermitage are thrown open to the multitude: the innumerable rooms are lighted up with myriads of wax candles; at convenient distances are placed sideboards with refreshments, adorned with pyramids of gold and silver plate; bands of military music resound in every corner to amuse the ear: picked men, of the highest stature, from the guards, are stationed in the ante-rooms, to give effect to the scene; and liveried servants swarm in every direction more numerous than the troops. And for whom was this colossal entertainment prepared? For every rank and degree; from the highest noble to the lowest peasant, all were equally welcome, without distinction, to pay their respects at the foot of the throne: there are no exclusions; rich and poor, the field-marshal and the invalid, the princess and the washerwoman, the master of the horse and the dancing-master, the maid of honour and the maid of all work, the prince and the mougik, the Queen of Georgia and the French milliner, may all hope for a smile or a courteous word from the fountain of honour. In this immense crowd, slowly moving through the apartments, no instance of disorder or incivility ever occurs; not even an attempt to steal the most trifling ornament, which, to some, must be a great temptation: the emperor is in the midst of his family, and the children are on their good behaviour. The wives of the rich Russian merchants press through the dense multitude decorated with necklaces and ear-rings of pearls and diamonds, without any apprehension. It would be no great injustice to suppose that, out of these twenty-five thousand guests, some of them might have been light-fingered yesterday, and will be equally adroit on the morrow: but on this evening a feeling of respect,

emperor, wishing to encourage his talent, gradually drew him nearer to his person: he pardoned some other exceptional productions; and at last bound him, by a promise, not to publish any verses without previously submitting them to his personal. He then made him one of his chamberlains, and treated him with great favour. Pouschkin was now in the road to prosperity; he married a young lady of great beauty, but this marriage has lately produced the most fatal consequences. In February last, the public papers announced the following catastrophe: 'The celebrated Pouschkin, the most distinguished poet of Russia, has been killed in a duel at St. Petersburg, with his brother-in-law, Mr. d'Anthes, a French officer in the Russian service, and the adopted son of a foreign minister accredited to this court. The quarrel, which has terminated so fatally, originated in some family disputes. The deceased survived his wound only about two hours; his adversary has also been seriously wounded. The foreign minister to whom allusion was made, is Mr. Hackert, the representative of Holland at St. Petersburg. This event produced a great sensation in society: the emperor was sorely afflicted, and Mr. d'Anthes was condemned by a Russian court-martial to the rank of a private; but, being a foreigner, was sent out of the country. He was a young man of distinguished manners; and, but for this melancholy circumstance, would have attained a high rank in the service."

of curiosity, and of pleasure, seem to engross every other sentiment; and these dubious characters leave their dexterity with their pelisses at the door of the palace. The varied costumes of the Russian women (some of high rank attached to the court), who were dressed in the richest habits of the distant provinces, added to the brilliant uniforms of the military, gave such a lustre to the whole scene, that the dingy caftans and bearded chins of the lower orders, far from impairing the effect, seemed only introduced as a dark shade to relieve the higher colouring of the picture. At seven o'clock the different members of the diplomatic corps are introduced into the great hall of St. George, where they are received by the emperor, the empress, the grand-dukes, and grand-duchesses, attended by their numerous court. This interview lasts but a few minutes, during which the crowd flows in like an inundation of the sea. The emperor then gives the signal to move, by offering his hand to one of the ambassadors present; the whole court follows his example; and a grave *polonoise* is begun, which passes through all the different apartments to the sound of the military orchestras, stationed in every direction. This procession advances, without interruption, through the surrounding masses of all ranks, headed by the tall, commanding figure of the emperor; at every instant he salutes his subjects, by raising the two forefingers to his hat; and, though the anxiety to catch even a glimpse of his person is so great that the eager crowd seems to present an impenetrable barrier, it opens before him as if by magic; the waves of human bodies recede, and leave always a space of at least six feet in front to facilitate his progress. The men are all expected to appear in domino, which is only a short black mantle on the shoulder, without a mask; but the tradespeople and mougiks are exempted from this rule. Here was a collection of all those nations who are only known in Europe by their name,—Armenians, Greeks, Tartars, Persians, Georgians, Imeretians, inhabitants of Caucasus and of the Don, wearing their appropriate dresses, and gazing with astonishment at a scene which must have appeared to them the work of a magician. In those rooms where the emperor was expected, the throng was at times so excessive, that parties were separated, shoes were lost, gowns torn, and respiration impeded; but no sooner had he passed than ease and tranquillity were restored. At last the *polonoise* is finished; and at eleven o'clock the emperor, with his party, retired to the private theatre at the Hermitage, where supper was prepared. It is illuminated in the most splendid manner with crystal ornaments and silver fringe, representing cascades and fountains of water, which have a dazzling effect to the eye; twelve negroes in the Turkish dress keep guard at the entrance of this fairy palace. This curious assembly was conducted with the greatest regularity, and without any interference of police, military, or dictation of any sort; it is highly creditable to the mildness and civility of the national character, as the same exhibition on the same scale in Paris or in London would have produced scenes of endless confusion."

"The little hereditary grand-duke was in the train, dressed as the Hetman of Cossacks; and several of the ladies wore the old Russian costume, sparkling with jewels and precious stones. The emperor may be justly styled the father of his subjects, but few would wish to pass the evening with twenty-five thousand children."

From Russian domestic, the transit is easy to Russian foreign news.

"Every thing I hear tends to prove that the issue of the late campaign is more to be attributed to the weakness of the Turkish empire, the contemptible state of their army, and the unpopularity of the sultan, than to any very brilliant achievements of their invaders. An officer, who is lately returned with the troops from Wallachia, sat next to me at dinner the other day, and mentioned several instances of the phlegmatic apathy of the Turks, proving, perhaps, more than he intended,—how few obstacles they had opposed to the boasted victories of his countrymen. At the siege of Silistria, which was at last taken, the Turkish ordnance was very ill-served,—worse, perhaps, than usual,—as the contracts for stores in that department had been fulfilled in a most slovenly and disgraceful manner. At one particular battery, commanded by a young officer of engineers, the failure in the howitzers was so constant, that they were quite useless: he made repeated complaints to the inspectors, and to the commandant, without obtaining any redress; they heard him with gravity, smoked their pipes, and took no steps even to ascertain how far they were well founded. At length, indignant at the position in which he was placed by the negligence or treachery of others, he rushed to the glacis where the pacha was exercising some troops belonging to the garrison; and, in the presence of all, holding out one of these howitzers in his hand, he set fire to the match, which whizzed for a few seconds, and then expired. The pacha, without changing a muscle of his countenance, calmly remarked: 'Young man, you have risked your life with great indiscretion; however defective these howitzers may be, one out of ten, on a moderate calculation, might have exploded, and in that case you would have been blown to atoms.'"

We must conclude, however, and do so with some lively anecdotes:—

D'Enghein.—"Morel (an innkeeper at Melmel) was living with the unfortunate Duc d'Enghein at the time of his arrest at Strasbourg, who, as he asserted, received three successive warnings of the impending danger, which he neglected. The last, and most impressive notice, was given him by an unknown individual in the forest while he was hunting, who urged him in the most solemn manner then not to return home: he slighted the advice, disdained all precautions, and that very night his house was surrounded by French troops, who led him to his doom."

Who's the Fool?—"Deux dames sont allées aux petites maisons, Hôpital des Fous, la veille du tirage de notre fameuse Loterie Génoise, pour se faire choisir cinq numéros: le fou, à qui elles s'adressèrent, rêva avec beaucoup d'attention, écrivit effectivement cinq numéros sur un petit papier, le roula, et puis l'avalait, en disant, 'Mesdames, je puis vous assurer que ces cinq numéros sortiront demain.' Est-ce que ce petit fagot ne vous fera pas rire? The writer quotes the following severe epitaph, made for Louis the Fifteenth:—

'Cy gît Louis le quinzième.
Du nom de Bien-aimé le deuxième:
Dieu nous conserve du troisième!"

Russian v. Jew.—"When Peter the Great was advised by one of his ministers to expel the Jews from his dominions on account of their cunning and roguery, he replied, 'Let them alone, my Russians are a match for them.' I believe his imperial majesty had a profound knowledge of his subjects."

The Equestrian Statue of Peter.—"The horse is a fine composition, prancing on his hind legs, which, being insufficient to support the ponderous weight of the body, an emblematical serpent has been introduced, twining upwards to his tail, on which he is supposed to trample. This did not escape the quick eye of our facetious friend Y—, when he was here a little time ago; who, as he passed by this statue, remarked, with his usual humour, 'It is a very fine horse, but what a pity that he should have worms!'"

Pun-imperial.—"M. de Narischkin (Demitri) was one day at court, when the conversation turned upon the war which Russia had then just declared against Turkey. The empress-mother was very animated on the subject, but frequently interrupted by the noise of a door, which creaked upon its hinges, she inquired of Mr. de N— what it could be? He immediately replied, 'C'est la Porte, qui demande des secours à la Grèce.'"

A Jewish Calendar for Sixty-four Years, detailing the New Moons, Festivals, &c.; with the Sections of the Law as read in the Synagogues every Sabbath, &c. By E. H. Lindo. 8vo. pp. 135. London, 1838. Carvalho.

This is a curious chronological performance, chiefly founded on Maimonides; and its table of events in Jewish history, though brief, has several novel features of considerable interest. It is impossible to convey an adequate idea of this work through the medium of review in pages arranged as ours are. For example, the Christian almanack for the twentieth century,* which occupies only half a page in Mr. Lindo's Calendar (p. 96), could not be copied into our columns without infinite trouble, and much expense. The Hours for taking Sabbath in different parts of the globe, Bengal, Jamaica, New South Wales, &c., shew the strong Jewish feeling for accuracy in their ceremonial observances. There are many matters, however, more deserving of general notice, and very honourable to the character of this ancient People.

"I have (says Mr. Lindo, in his Preface) added a list of our religious and charitable institutions,† in the hope that, by their being more generally known, they will obtain additional support from the benevolent, and thereby enable them to increase the benefits they at present confer; and although some few are exclusively confined to particular congregations, yet the members of the others are ever ready with their purses and personal exertions, to contribute their aid to benefit mutually the societies of each. In alluding to these institutions, I am confident I only express the general feeling of the Jewish community in gratefully acknowledging the kind patronage and the generous support bestowed on several of them by the members of the royal family, and by many benevolent individuals of the Christian public."

"Those governments who have employed Jews in public situations, have ever found them faithful to the trusts confided to them. I could have greatly extended the list of those who have been honoured with titles and orders by enlightened and liberal sovereigns; or have

* "Owing to the year 1800 not having been bissextile, there are now (twelve days difference between the old and new style; after 1800, there will be thirteen days."

† "In this list the gift of Sir Moses Montefiore, in 1823, to the Portuguese congregation, of the freehold, Cock Court, Jewry Street, to be appropriated as almshouses, has been inadvertently omitted."

been selected by their fellow-citizens for the most important duties."

We cannot, perhaps, do a more welcome office by this production, than quote the list of charities, &c., above alluded to; and which, we repeat, are infinitely creditable to a people whose love of wealth is so universally thrown at their beads: it is surely a consolation and a counterpoise to find that their benevolence keeps pace with their riches; and that princely institutions, for the best of human purposes, keep pace with princely revenues. The dates of the foundation of these religious and charitable establishments, shew that with their earliest toleration and safety commenced the good works of instruction to the ignorant, and relief to the suffering. The list is remarkable in a statistical point of view.

5448-1664. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Almonino, Hon. Sec.—A society for the study of the holy law, and the education and clothing of boys of the Portuguese congregation; the latter was remodelled in 1822, and entitled חברה לנתינת חסדים. Subscriptions 12s. per ann. A life-governorship, five guineas.

5425-1665. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. B. H. Cohen, Secretary.—A society for affording relief to the sick; since transferred to the hospital; and interring the poor of the Portuguese congregation free of expense. Subscription 12s. per ann. Ladies, 6s. per ann. A life-governorship, five guineas.

5489-1700. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. A. H. Salom, Secretary.—Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Orphan School, for the education, maintenance, clothing, and apprenticing orphan boys, who are admitted by the votes of the subscribers. Annual subscription, 1l. A life-governorship, 10l. Ladies, half the sums. The Portuguese Jews' Almshouses, Heneage Lane, for twenty-four poor women.

5484-1724. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. B. H. Cohen, Secretary.—A society maintained from its own funds, under the management of nineteen governors, for granting, annually, marriage portions of 60l. to one or more fatherless girls of the Portuguese congregation; 20s. to every poor woman lying-in at the hospital; 10s. if at her own habitation; and 5s. to every poor person, above ten years of age, taking bed.

5488-1726. The Hambro Synagogue founded. 5489-1730. The Villareal Charity School. Mr. S. Almonino, Secretary.—Founded by Isaac da Costa Villareal, for the education and clothing of twenty poor girls of the Portuguese congregation, maintained from its own funds, under the management of the Mahamad and the heir of the founder. A committee of young ladies voluntarily superintend the school, and seek employment, by apprenticeship or otherwise, for those leaving it.

5486-1736. חברה לנתינת חסדים A society, under the management of its own governors, for giving, annually, marriage portions of 80l., or upwards, to poor fatherless girls of the Portuguese congregation. A donation of 25s. constitutes a governor, with right to name a successor, in default of which, his next heir, according to the Jewish law of succession, succeeds to the governorship.

5505-1745. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. J. Hyams, Secretary.—Supported by subscriptions of 10s. 6d. annually: a life-governorship, 5l. This society furnishes to every poor lawfully married woman, of the German congregations, put to bed of a male child, a person to perform the circumcision, a godfather for the child, and 25s. in money.

5507-1747. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Almonino, Secretary.—The Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Hospital, removed in 1799 to Mile End, for the reception of the sick poor of the congregation, lying-in women, and an asylum for the aged, with advice, and gratuitous dispensation of medicine to out-patients. Supported by voluntary contributions. Subscribers of 1l. 1s. per ann., may have one in-patient and two out-patients on the establishment. Subscribers of 2l. 2s. have, in addition, the privilege of sending in a pregnant woman, on entering her ninth month. Life-governors, or governesses, have the same privilege. A life-governorship, ten guineas for gentlemen, and five guineas for ladies.

5508-1748. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. P. Lazarus, Esq. Hon. Sec.—A society for educating and clothing ten orphan boys, who are admitted by the recommendation of a subscriber; when a vacancy occurs, the names of the applicants are placed in a wheel, those drawn prizes receive the benefit. Supported by annual subscriptions of 6s.

5509-1749. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Solis, Secretary.—A society, under the management of its own governors, for apprenticing poor boys of the Portuguese congregation; leading money to the industrious poor; granting rewards for good behaviour to servants and apprentices; and outfitting boys leaving the country. A donation of 5l. constitutes a governor.

5580-1760. The New German Synagogue, in Lendenhall Street, founded.

5538-1778. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. M. Da Costa, Jun., Esq. Hon. Sec.—A society for distributing bread weekly to the poor of the Portuguese congregation, supported by voluntary subscriptions. Subscriptions, 6s. per ann., for gentlemen, 3s. for ladies. A life-governorship, five guineas, with the privilege of recommending a pensioner, subject to the approval of the committee.

5540-1780. חברה לנתינת חסדים S. A. Levy, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society for distributing bread, meat, and coals, during the winter, to the Jewish poor, supported by voluntary contributions and subscriptions; entitling the subscribers to the chance of drawing benefits, which consist of a ticket for 1s. 9d. for bread, 1s. 9d. coals, and 1s. 9d. meat, for twelve weeks. Subscribers of 4s. 4d. annually, have one chance, and of 1l. 1s., five chances. This was the first society inducing the frugal poor, by saving the trifling sum of one penny per week, to endeavour to procure themselves some assistance when most required.

5550-1790. The Great German Synagogue, in Duke's Place, built.

5558-1798. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. H. A. Abrahams, Secretary.—A society for administering pecuniary relief to the poor in winter, supported by subscriptions of 21s. per annum, for which a subscriber has four chances of a drawing by lot; prizes receive tickets for 5s. per week for twelve weeks.

5506-1806. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. A. Leo, Secretary.—The Jews' Hospital (German), Mile End, for the support of the aged, and for the education and employment of youth; trades are taught them in the house, where many articles are manufactured, and sold for the benefit of the establishment. Supported by voluntary contributions. Subscribers of a guinea annually have one vote; two guineas, two votes; and three guineas, four votes. A donation of twenty-five guineas constitutes a life governor, who has four votes.

5573-1812. The Ladies' Benevolent Institution. Mrs. L. Lucas, Hon. Sec.—Instituted by the Baroness N. M. De Rothschild, for the purpose of relieving poor Jewish lying-in married women at their own dwellings. Subscribers of one guinea per annum are entitled to a recommendation. The benefits conferred, are a complete suit of clothes for the mother, two for the infant, one pair of sheets, and 5s. per week for two weeks, with such further relief as the committee may deem necessary.

5573-1813. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Joseph, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society for clothing poor Jewish boys between the ages of seven and thirteen. Supported by voluntary contributions and subscriptions; the benefits are drawn half-yearly. Subscribers of 12s. per annum are entitled to recommend one boy; 16s. two; and 21s., or upwards, three. A donation of five guineas constitutes a life-governor, who has one recommendation at each drawing.

5576-1816. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. H. A. Henry, Sec.—The Jews' Free School for the education of 600 boys and 300 girls. Supported by voluntary contributions and annual subscriptions of 12s. and upwards; at a proper age the committee seek to procure employment for those leaving the school. By the munificence of Baroness N. M. De Rothschild, a dress is furnished to each annually.

Barrow's Almshouses, Globe Lane, founded by Joseph Barrow, Esq., for ten respectable poor families of the Portuguese congregation.

5573-1817. חברה לנתינת חסדים Miss S. Nathan, Hon. Sec.—For clothing half-yearly poor girls of the Jewish communities, between the ages of eight and fourteen. Supported by voluntary contributions and subscriptions. Subscribers drawing a benefit are entitled to send a girl to be clothed. Subscription 4s. 4d. annually for one chance; or, five chances for a guinea. Under the government of a committee of young ladies.

5579-1819. חברה לנתינת חסדים H. Dyke, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society for granting an allowance of 5s. weekly to the indigent blind of the Jewish persuasion, supported by voluntary contributions. Pensioners are admitted by the majority of votes of the subscribers. 5l. 5s. constitutes a life-governor, who has two votes; subscribers of 10s., annually, have one vote, and of 21s. two votes.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Solomons, Sec.—A society for educating, clothing, and allowing 4s. weekly to poor Jewish orphan children; admitted by the majority of votes of the subscribers. 4s. 4d. annually entitles a subscriber to one vote; 10s. to two; and 20s. to three. A life-governorship, having two votes, 5l. 5s.

5580-1820. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Rees, Sec.—The Western Institution, for educating, clothing, and apprenticing indigent Jewish boys, by a majority of votes of the subscribers. Supported by voluntary contributions. 2l. 2s. constitutes a life-governor, who has four votes; annual subscribers of 4s. 4d. have one vote; 8s. 8d. two; 13s. three; and 21s. four.

5581-1821. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. M. Kisch, Sec.—The Westminster Benevolent Institution, for clothing Jewish boys. Supported by subscriptions of 8d. per month. For each 8d. contributed, the subscriber has a chance of a benefit, which is drawn half-yearly.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. B. H. Cohen, Sec.—The Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Charity School, for forty boys, who are educated, clothed, and apprenticed, supported by voluntary contribution. Annual subscription,

one guinea. A life-governorship, ten guineas. This school is remodelled from the one founded in 1664.

5584-1824. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. M. Samuel, Sec.—A society for relieving the indigent sick of the Jewish congregations. Relief is given on a certificate from a doctor according to the decision of the visiting committee. Supported by subscriptions of 4s. 4d. annually.

5585-1825. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. C. Joel, Sec.—A society allowing 5s. per week to poor widows of the Jewish communities. Pensioners admitted by a majority of votes of the subscribers. A subscription of 6s. per annum entitles to one vote; 10s. two; 16s. three; 20s. four; and an additional vote for every 4s. more subscribed. Subscribers paying three months' subscription are entitled to vote.

5586-1826. חברה לנתינת חסדים A society supported by voluntary contribution, for clothing poor boys. The subscriber's name with the boy's recommended, are drawn half-yearly, those gaining a benefit receive a complete suit of clothes. Subscribers of 12s. per annum have one recommendation; 16s. two; and 21s. three. The German Synagogue, in St. Alban's Place, consecrated.

5588-1828. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. M. Sampson, Sec.—The Western Jewish Philanthropic Institution, for granting loans not exceeding 5l. to the industrious poor, or gifts not exceeding 2l. to the distressed, on the recommendation of a subscriber paying 12s. per annum, the society being supported by voluntary subscriptions.

5589-1829. חברה לנתינת חסדים S. Wolff, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society supported by voluntary contribution, for allowing 13s. per annum to aged reduced meritorious objects of the Jewish persuasion. Annuitants admitted by a majority of votes of the subscribers. Subscribers of 4s. per annum are entitled to one vote; 8s. to two; 12s. to three; and 21s. to six. A donation of five guineas constitutes a life-governor, who has six votes.

חברה לנתינת חסדים M. Samuel, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society for cheering the needy at festivals, supported by annual subscription of 4s. 4d. The subscribers' names are drawn at Passover and Tabernacle; those gaining benefits receive a ticket for 10s.

5590-1830. חברה לנתינת חסדים Preparatory School. Mr. B. H. Cohen, Sec.—For the education of all the male children of the Portuguese congregation; supported by voluntary contribution. Annual subscription, 10s.; a life-governorship, 5l. A governor, or subscriber, is entitled to have one boy in the school; being a branch of the school established in 1822. Subscription to both, 20s. per annum.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. A. Saqui, Sec.—A society for allowing 8s. per week, for a Sagui, to the poor Jewish blind, who are admitted by a majority of votes of the subscribers. An annual subscription of 8s. entitles to two votes; and one for every additional 4s.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. Nieto, Sec.—A society furnishing persons to sit up with the sick, and allowing for the week of mourning, 8s. in bread, meat, and coals, and 1s. in money. Supported by annual subscriptions of 4s. 4d.

5591-1831. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. A. Saqui, Sec.—Jews' Orphan Asylum, supported by voluntary contributions; Under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen Dowager for the education, maintenance, clothing, and apprenticing male and female orphans of Jewish communities, who are admitted by a majority of votes of the subscribers, at any age under 11. Annual subscription unlimited. A life-governorship, 5 guineas.

5592-1832. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. S. Solomons, Sec.—The Infant Orphan Charity, supported by voluntary contributions and subscriptions of one guinea per ann. This Society allows three shillings per week for nursing, furnishing clothing, and, at six years of age, procures their education in the free school, and, lastly, apprentices them to trades. The infants of any of the Jewish congregations are admitted by the majority of votes of the subscribers.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. N. Perez, Sec.—The Widows' Pension Society; gives 2s. 6d. per week for six months to poor widows of the Jewish communities pensioners admitted by the majority of votes of the subscribers. Supported by subscription: subscribers of 4s. per annum have one vote; 6s. two; 10s. three; and 20s. six.

5593-1833. חברה לנתינת חסדים J. L. Lyon, Esq., Hon. Sec.—A society for clothing children of the needy of the Jewish persuasion: clothes six girls and six boys half-yearly. Supported by subscription. A subscriber drawing a benefit has the privilege of sending a child to be clothed. Annual subscription for one chance, 4s. 4d. and for two, 6s. 6d.

חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. E. Goldsmith, Sec.—A society for assisting the Jewish poor at festivals; supported by subscriptions of 4s. 4d. annually. Benefits of 10s. each are drawn half-yearly.

5595-1835. A society for distributing winter-clothing to the Jewish poor, consisting of great coats, cloaks, and blankets, which are drawn annually. Subscribers of 4s. 4d. have one chance; for 21s. five. Mr. B. Cohen, Sec.

5596-1836. חברה לנתינת חסדים Mr. J. Cohen, Sec.—A society for relieving distressed aliens of the Jewish persuasion; supported by voluntary contributions; contributors are entitled to recommend objects for relief.

5598-1838. A handsome synagogue, with suitable dwellings for its chief officers, is being built by the congregation of the new synagogue, in Great St. Helen's, and,

with the blessing of God, will shortly be dedicated to his holy service.

Almshouses for twelve respectable poor families of the German congregations, with a synagogue attached, are being built by the benevolence of A. L. Moses, Esq., of Algate, at his sole expense, in a most beautiful style.

We shall only select two or three of the later notices from the Chronological Table; a portion of those facts which, among other things, mark the gradual extinction of Jewish disabilities.

1815. The following shews, that the illustrious members of the Congress of Vienna were not unmindful of the Jews.—Article XVI. 'The congress will consider the best possible means of effecting a uniform amelioration of the followers of the Jewish religion throughout Germany, and particularly of granting them the enjoyment of civil rights in the allied states, in return for their taking on themselves all civil duties. Meanwhile it guarantees to the professors of that faith, the rights already granted them by single states of the alliance.'

1826. The Jews admitted, and toleration granted to them, at Lisbon, by John VI.

1825. M. J. Boss, appointed one of the three magistrates of Amsterdam.

1826. The Chevalier Gamba relates, that he met near Kouba, in Southern Russia, a Jewish village, that had existed from time immemorial.

1831. Jews admitted to the freedom of the city of London.

1836. Lieutenant Uriah Levey, made a captain in the navy of the United States.

1837. Jan. 1st. 5000 Jews perished at Saphet and Tiberias, by an earthquake.

The Jews emancipated by the states of Hanover, during the vice-royalty of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

Sheriff Montefiore knighted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

1838. D. Salomons, Esq., appointed a magistrate for the county of Kent.

The hereditary title of baron recognised by the British government, to Lionel, eldest son of the late Baron N. M. De Rothschild.

We learn, besides, from these condensed annals of the Hebrew race, from the Flood to the present day, that the Jews, though generally reckoned unwarlike, can boast of some great commanders even in modern times, and who have led Gentile or Christian nations to victory—such as Jachiahi, generalissimo of the Portuguese. A regiment of Jewish cavalry fought, 1794, for Polish independence, under Kosciusko; and six Hebrew battalions, in 1792, formed part of the defence of Warsaw.

There is, independently of existing circumstances, a very considerable interest attached to the traditional festivals of a race to whom the First Law of our own religious system was given, and who have clung to it so long and so steadfastly from such remote antiquity. It is thus something more than mere curiosity that prompts us to examine the results of an astronomical system, to a certain degree perfected by a foreign and oppressed people in a strange land, where they were mere wanderers, just delivered from bondage.

It is clear that the Hebrews did not derive their astronomical system from the Egyptians, for the names of the two were different, and the year of the latter, after material corrections, subsequent to the Exodus, was long before it approached the accuracy of Jewish calculation. In truth, the real state and progress of this nation in the sciences of that period, would form, in our opinion, one of the most curious chapters in the history of man; for the vulgar notion, which we have so long been content to take for granted, viz. that it was altogether borrowed from the Egyptians, is strongly contradicted by what we can ascertain to have in reality been the proper civilisation of the Jews.

The accuracy and value of the work is attested by Dr. Hirschel, chief rabbi, and the presiding rabbi, Meldola.

Instructions to Young Sportsmen in all that relates to Guns and Shooting. By Lieut.-Col. P. Hawker. 8vo. pp. 549. London, 1838. Longman and Co.

Our perennial Colonel Hawker, like the May-

fly, always comes in season for sporting. Here is an *Eighth Edition*, against which not only have we no charge to make, but, on behalf of which, we are brought down to acknowledge that it more than ever proves the writer to be the *Great Gun* in all matters which concern the sports of the field.

On Monday, the poor grouse will have cause to confess the same fact: in about another fortnight, the partridges; in six weeks, the pheasants; and at due dates, the hares and rabbits; the ducks, geese, swans, and other aquatic fowls; the woodcocks and snipes; the black cocks, gray hens, and ptarmigans; the roes and red deer; and all the varieties, *fera natura*, which it is the cunning, the skill, and the pride of man to do to death, by flood and field. Seductive to exercise and health, we cannot but pity the ruthless slaughter of these furred and feathered innocents; but it is curious and consolatory to know that, if we did not kill them, they must perish from other means; for the increase of game, where well-regulating sporting is observed, is greater than where they are left altogether undisturbed to be preyed upon by creatures of rapacious kinds.

In this new volume are twelve new cuts to illustrate improvements in fowling pieces, traps, punts, loading, &c.; and several objects belonging to natural history, of an interesting character. There are, also, some additions to the text; and, as seven previous editions have made the work intimately known to sportsmen, we shall direct our notice to some of the novelties—useful and ornamental.—Thus:—

The Stock.—"The new and easy recipe for polishing gun-stocks now (1838), is to varnish them precisely like the panels of a carriage. Nothing does better."

The Charge.—"You are obliged, in your own defence, to load a detonator lighter than a flint-gun: and as it goes quicker (though not stronger, as the gunmakers would wish to make you believe), and for other reasons, before given, you may use a fourth less powder than with a flint-gun. [My own plan, however, is generally to reduce the charge of shot to an oz. and $\frac{1}{2}$, and shoot with equal measures of powder and shot.]"

Travelling.—"If a sportsman has many articles to take on a full coach, it is a good plan to tie to each packet a piece of riband of the same colour, by which he will be able to point out his baggage in a moment, without the trouble of getting up to shew it to the porter."

Powder.—"The best powder for flint-guns is the 'fine cylinder'; for copper-cap guns, either cylinder or No. 2, according to the length of communication; because with these guns the larger grained powder often fails to ignite. But with copper primers we should use No. 1, which is of larger grain; and particularly in damp weather, or on salt water. By long experience, I find that the size in grain of the powder should be as duly proportioned to that of the gun, and the long distances for which it is required, as the wadding must be to the size of the caliber."

Nipple-probe.—"To make a clean nipple-probe, get a woman's hair-pin and cut it in two; then break off about two inches of a clay tobacco-pipe; put the pin through it, and bend the blunt end so as to keep it firm, and the pointed end to a right angle. Put a cork or piece of elder on it, and carry it in your pocket. This is a plan of mine that I dedicate to misers, because you may get up about twenty of these nipple-pickers for a penny."

The Delights of being a Landowner and Man of Property.—"To be in good nerve for shooting, have all your arrangements made, and your apparatus prepared over night; and then you have only to take your breakfast, and go off in the morning, without having any thing to flurly you, by which you may become irritated and unsteady in the field. This is often the case with gentlemen on their own estates, who are sometimes so interrupted, that they lose half the morning before they can get away from home. None but weak men, therefore, envy the proprietor, who has all the trouble and vexation inseparable from landed property and manors. The happy man is the flying cadger, who adjourns to the coach-box from his London den, with his gun-case and his portmanteau, and with no earthly care beyond the scent for his shooting, the wind for his fishing, and the resources and amusements afforded by his country friend. In short, he luxuriates in the cream of the sport; while the squire has all the trouble and anxiety of preserving it, and can, perhaps, only enjoy an uninterrupted day's pleasure when he leaves his own place with all his cares behind him, and sports in some other, where he has nothing to ruffle his temper or divide his attention."

Swans and their Song.—"They are, when young, becoming a fashionable dish; and there is now a man in Norwich who serves the gentry round by fattening them, at a guinea a-piece. No birds vary more in weight than hoopers. In the last winter (1838), I have killed them from 13 lbs. to 21 lbs. On one occasion, I knocked down eight at a shot,—seven old ones, and one young one,—and they averaged above 19 lbs. each! The old gander was only winged; and, when he found himself overtaken by Read, he turned round and made a regular charge at him. But Read gave him a 'settler' across the neck with his pole: otherwise he might have had the worst of the fight, he being on mud-boards, among soft mud and ice. We had a hearty laugh, and compared the engagement to that of St. George and the dragon. The only note I ever heard from the wild swan in winter is his well-known hoop. But, one summer's evening, I was amused with watching and listening to a domesticated one, as he swam up and down the water in the Regent's Park. He tuned up a sort of melody, made with two notes, C and the minor third (E flat), and kept working his head as if delighted with his own performance."

Bugs.—"If you are obliged to sleep where there are bugs, nothing will keep them off better than taking to bed with you a large piece of camphor. This beats russia leather, which was our remedy in the Peninsular campaign."

A list of London gunmakers, and a digest of the game-laws, as they now stand, complete this very useful volume; and we need hardly add, that it is written with all that off-handedness which so well becomes a sporting, and, consequently, an amusing subject.

1. *Smith's Wealth of Nations. With a Life of the Author, an Introductory Discourse, Notes, and Supplemental Dissertation.* By J. R. McCulloch, Esq. A new Edition. 8vo. pp. 648. 1838. Edinburgh, A. and C. Black; W. Tait: London, Longman and Co.
2. *A Statistical Account of the British Empire, &c.* By J. R. McCulloch, Esq., assisted by Numerous Contributors. Parts I. II. III. IV. Second Edition. 8vo. pp. 733. London, 1838. Knight.

3. *Journal of the Statistical Society.* Part IV. London, 1838. Knight.

4, 5, 6. *The State of the Science of Political Economy.* Investigated by W. Atkinson. Pp. 73. Whitaker. *Observations on Bankruptcy.* By W. H. Ashurst. Pp. 34. Dinwiddie. *Thoughts on the Currency.* By K. S. (W. S. Sankey). Pp. 20. Edinburgh, 1838. A. and C. Black.

A MONTH ago (*Lit. Gaz.* 1121) we noticed the first three Numbers of the "Journal of the Statistical Society," and the very various mass of data it was collecting for future arrangement, digest, and usefulness. The fourth Number, like its predecessors, contains much information; as, for example, on the state of education in the parishes of St. John and St. Margaret, Westminster, with a population of about 48,000 souls; on the mortality of troops in the West Indies; criminal tables in England and Wales, for 1837, from which we regret to see that crime is on the increase; notes on schools of industry for pauper children; and some miscellaneous notices, of which the following are specimens:—

"*Thames Tunnel.*—Capital of the company expended, 180,000; amount of advances made by the treasury to 20 November, 1837, 85,900; total expenditure, 265,900. Estimate, by Mr. Walker, of cost for completing the Tunnel, 130,000; and for the other works remaining to be done and purchased, 200,000; total sum required, exclusive of contingencies, 350,000.

"*Armories, Tower.*—Number of persons admitted to see the armories in 1837, 14,523; of whom 10,408 paid 2s. each. In the four weeks ending 28th March, 1838, when the fee was reduced to 1s., the admissions were 4320, of whom 4196 paid.

"*Marriages.*—Number of places in England and Wales, licensed for the celebration of marriage under the provisions of 6 and 7 Will. IV. cap. 35, 1136; number of certificates for marriage, granted under the same act, during the six months, from July to December 1837, 2349; number of marriages celebrated other than according to the rites of the established church during the same period, 1745; of which 453 were in the superintendent registrar's office, and 1292 in registered places of worship, or between Quakers or Jews; 220 were by license, and 1285 on production of a certificate. Numbers celebrated according to the rites of the established church within the bills of mortality in the same period, 6032, of which 5108 were after banns, and 911 by license.

"*Merchant Seamen.*—Registered seamen serving in British vessels on 9th June, 1838, 156,572; apprenticed seamen serving at the same date, 21,107.

"*Beer Houses.*—Licenses taken out in 1835, 39,654; in 1837, 45,294; increase 14 per cent.

"*Consumption of Spirits.*—Quantities of British and foreign spirits paid duty in the united kingdom, in 1836, 31,402,118 gallons; in 1837, 29,943,103; decrease 74 per cent.

"*Consumption of Wine.*—Quantities retained for consumption in the united kingdom, in 1836, 6,809,212 gallons; in 1837, 6,391,560; decrease 6.1 per cent.

"*Newspapers.*—Number in the year (ending 15th September) 1836, 397; in 1837, 456; stamps issued in the first period, 35,576,056; in the second, 35,496,207; increase 50 per cent.

"*Thames Passengers.*—Number who landed or embarked at Hungerford Wharf, in 1834, 30,985; in 1835, 142,139; in 1836, 225,974; and in the half year ending July 11th, 1837, 174,563.

"*Savings Banks.*—Number of depositors, including charitable institutions and friendly societies, on 20th November, 1836, 597,969; on same date, in 1837, 632,440; increase 6.2 per cent; amount of deposits, in 1836, 18,761,214; in 1837, 19,599,073; increase 4.4 per cent.

"*Exports from the United Kingdom.*—Total declared value, in 1836, 33,368,572; in 1837, 42,214,938; decrease, 11,133,634; = 29 per cent.

"*Fourpenny Pieces.*—Number issued from first coinage on 14th March, 1836, to 31st March, 1838, 5,339,500; value 89,325s.

The new edition of Mr. M'Culloch's *Statistics of the British Empire*, corrected and enlarged, of which we have also four Parts (constituting the first volume) before us, is one of those works in which we see the great practical value of having a diligent and able mind turned to the systematic application of materials obtained in very many ways from a hundred different quarters and sources. In this sort of work, M'Culloch is a Giant of forty Academician, or Incorporated Society power. The information he brings together

is immense; and it is generally displayed in the most perspicuous manner, with every help to easy reference. His performances are truly national and individual benefits; and well and truly has he deserved all the consideration which his labours have won for him, from every rank and condition of those who can appreciate the worth of great industry and great talent, zealously and faithfully applied to inquiries of the most important nature.

Every reader is so well aware of the character and chief features of this work, that we need hardly offer a specimen of it; but we like to observe our usual plan, and let authors say something for themselves. Describing the rivers of England, Mr. M. says of the Thames:—

"The removal of the old London Bridge has caused a considerable change in the river above, and also, though in a less degree, below the bridge. Owing to the contracted arches through which the water had to make its way at the old bridge, there was a fall of twelve feet nine inches to five feet at low-water; this fall is now reduced to about two inches; so that the low-water line above the bridge is nearly five feet lower at spring tides than formerly. In consequence, a greatly increased body of tidal water now flows up and down the river; and as it meets with no obstruction, it flows with a decidedly greater velocity. The effect of this is to scour and deepen the channel of the river; its influence in this respect being already sensibly felt as far up as Putney Bridge, seven and half miles above London Bridge. The shores above the latter, that were formerly foul and muddy, are now clean shingle and gravel, and near low-water the beach is quite hard and firm. The shoals are also decreasing below the bridge; and there can be little doubt that the change will, at no distant period, be felt from the Nore up to Teddington. Before the removal of the old bridge, a barge starting from the pool with the first of the flood, could not get further than Putney Bridge without the assistance of oars. But, under similar circumstances, a barge now reaches Mortlake, four miles further up, before using oars, and with a little help she may reach Richmond; and taking longer there, may get to Teddington in a tide. The descent down the river has been equally facilitated; the mean velocities of the flood and ebb between London Bridge and Westminster Bridge are, flood, 3 miles an hour, extreme, 3½; ebb, 3½, extreme, 3¾."

In zoology, we meet with the following observations:—

"There can be no doubt that squirrels, at one time, abounded in all our woods, for no tree is more common in Britain than the hazel-nut; and the only two vertebrate animals which are known to make this fruit their chief repast are the squirrel and the nuthatch. No reasonable cause can be discovered for the diminution of the latter; but the squirrel is persecuted and destroyed by gamekeepers, employed by country gentlemen to clear their parks and preserves of 'vermin.' Perhaps these destroyers of our few remaining British animals imagine that squirrels, like stoats, suck the eggs, and feed upon the young of partridges and pheasants. Nature, no doubt, intended that the vast quantities of oak-trees found in Britain should supply abundance of food to the wild boars, with which our island was originally stocked. But here man has been at work, and, having destroyed the consumers of this abundant vegetable supply, has created an anomaly which did not naturally exist. Every autumn, thousands and tens of thousands of umbrageous oaks scatter a plentiful supply of pine acorns; but, alas! those denizens of the forest, for whose support this repast was originally intended, have long since been exterminated; and the acorns are now only gathered by the cottager for his tame pig, or eaten in the vicinity of the farmyard by the hog, permitted, in autumn, to leave their sties, and grub among the fallen leaves of the neighbouring oaks."

A list of 274 species of British birds is given, and the author adds:—

"If we separate these into groups, according to the nature of their food, we shall have some curious results. First, there are twenty-two large and three small-sized rapacious species, or such as feed not only upon small quadrupeds, but also upon other birds. We should add to these, also, the cuckoo; because, although it does not actually kill and eat, as do hawks, owls, and shrikes, yet it obviously destroys, and materially checks, the increase of the smaller birds, by its extraordinary habit of depositing them of their legitimate offspring, and substituting its own. We shall thus have one rapacious species for ten that are not, and whose food consists of insects, seeds, or fishes. The land and water birds (considering the waters as coming under the latter denomination), in point of species are nearly equal, there being 137 of the former, and 136 of the latter. This equality is never found but in the ornithology of moderate-sized islands, where the extent of coast is very great, and the land is not so near to the adjacent continent as to permit

the free passage of the ordinary perching birds. In all this there is a beautiful harmony, the shores of every region being peopled with their proportionate number of feathered inhabitants, and producing for their use, by the rise and ebb of the tides, a constant and varied supply of food in the shape of marine animals. On looking again, to those which inhabit the land, we find that out of 137, only fourteen feed exclusively upon berries and seeds. This, certainly, appears, at first sight, an unequal and an unnatural proportion; seeing that our woods, hedges, and fields, supply such quantities of berries, seeds, and grain. But this plentiful supply of vegetable food is not produced by nature in vain, nor is it left to useless decay. Those birds, stationary in our island, which, during summer, thin the ranks of the insect world, would perish in winter from sheer hunger, had they not, at that inhospitable season, an appetite for vegetable rather than for animal food. We, accordingly, find that, so soon as autumn approaches, and insects become scarce, black-birds, thrushes, and various other perchers, sustain themselves during winter on the hips and haws of our hedges, and the innumerable seeds left on the fallow lands and on hedge-banks; the crow genus alone, by their powerful bills, being able to break the half-frozen ground, and search for insects concealed beneath its surface. It must be remembered, also, that although the finch tribe are insectivorous, yet that, during winter, their chief, if not only food, consists of seeds; and that even other stationary birds, especially adapted, by their structure, for insect destroyers, nevertheless comfortably subsist, during winter, upon the produce of the vegetable world; the robin and the hedge-sparrow are striking examples of this fact; both are truly insectivorous; but, not being migratory, they subsist, during the colder months, on minute seeds and small berries."

It is thus on every subject that superior information is furnished in a concise and simple manner. The population of Ireland, we observe, is stated, according to the census of 1831, at 7,767,401, being an increase of 14½ per cent in ten years, from 1821; and we now see it stated in the papers, from recent Reports, at 8½ millions. Can it possibly have increased above 125,000 per annum during the last six years?

The account of British manufactures is stupendous in its figures and results. As an example of the honest and impartial manner in which Mr. M'Culloch treats this and all other subjects of investigation, we select a short paragraph on paper-making:—

"We believe (he says) it was owing rather to the want of skill than, as has sometimes been supposed, to the inferior quality of the linen of this country, that the manufacture of paper was not carried on with much success in England till a comparatively recent period. During the seventeenth century most part of our supply was imported from the Continent, especially from France. The manufacture is said to have been considerably improved by the French refugees who fled to this country in 1685. But it is distinctly stated in the 'British Merchant' (vol. ii. p. 260), that hardly any sort of paper, except brown, was made here previously to the Revolution. In 1680, however, the manufacture of white paper was attempted; and, within a few years, most branches were much improved. In 1721, it is supposed that there were about 300,000 reams of paper annually produced in Great Britain, which was equal to about two thirds of the whole consumption." In 1783, the value of the paper annually manufactured was estimated at 780,000. At present, besides making a sufficient quantity of most sorts of paper for our own use, we annually export about 100,000 worth of books. We still, however, continue to import certain descriptions of paper for engravings from France, and a small supply of paper-hangings. The duty on both amounts to about 2000l. a year. In 1813, Dr. Colquhoun estimated the value of the paper annually produced in Great Britain at 2,000,000; but Mr. Stephenson, an incomparably better authority upon such subjects, estimated it at only half the sum. From information obtained from those engaged in the trade, we incline to think that the total annual value of the paper manufactured in the united kingdom, exclusive of the duty, may at present amount to about 1,300,000, or 1,300,000. There are about 700 paper-mills in England, and from 70 to 80 in Scotland. The number in Ireland is but inconsiderable. About 27,000 individuals are supposed to be directly engaged in the trade; and, besides the workmen employed in the mills, the paper manufacture creates a considerable demand for the labour of millwrights, machinists, smiths, carpenters, iron and brass-founders, wire-workers, woollen-manufacturers, and others, in the machinery and apparatus of the mills. Some parts of these are very powerful, and subject to severe strain; and other parts are complicated and delicate, and require continual renovation. Owing to this, the manufacture is of much greater importance, as a source of employment, than might at first be supposed, or than it would seem to be considered by government, who have loaded it with

* Mr. M. is probably not aware, that, for years after this, it was often a term in contracts for publishing books, that they should be printed on *Genoa paper*.—Ed. L. G.

an excise duty amounting to more than three times as much as the total wages of the work-people employed! The modern discoveries in chemical science have not only materially facilitated the manufacture, but have greatly enlarged the supply of materials from which paper may be made. Until within these few years, the refuse and sweepings of cotton-mills, owing to the grease and dirt with which they are mixed up, were of no value whatever, except as manure. But means having been discovered of purifying them, they are now made into very good paper; and the neighbourhood of Manchester has, in consequence, become a principal seat of the manufacture. During the present century, so remarkable for improvements in the arts, this manufacture has been signally promoted, notwithstanding the excise regulations, by the application of machinery to the conversion of pulp into paper. The first idea of this originated in France. A model of the machinery was brought to this country by M. Didot, which, though very far from giving assurance of success, was yet sufficient to induce English capitalists and engineers, particularly Mr. Donkin, to follow up the scheme; and, in the course of a few years, they have brought it to a high degree of perfection. Mr. Dickinson, of Hertfordshire, one of the most intelligent mechanists and the most extensive paper-manufacturer in England, has invented a machine of a different construction for the same purpose, and has also introduced various subsidiary improvements into the manufacture. The result is all but miraculous. By the agency of a great deal of complicated machinery, so admirably contrived as to produce the intended effect with unerring precision, and in the very best manner, a process which, in the old system of paper-making, occupied about three weeks, is performed in as many minutes! A continuous stream of fluid pulp is, within this brief space of time, and the short distance of thirty feet, not only made into paper, but actually dried, polished, and every separate sheet cut round the edges, and rendered completely ready for use! The paper manufactured by this wonderful combination of intelligence and power is at once moderate in price and, for most purposes, superior in quality to that which was formerly made by hand. Mr. Dickinson has very recently made an important improvement in the paper-manufacture, on the principle of veneering in cabinet-work. He makes two webs of paper, each by a separate process, and, by laying them together while in an early stage, they are rendered inseparable by the pressure to which they are subjected. This paper is used in copper-plate printing; and, by adopting a peculiar method of preparing the pulp, and selecting a finer rag for the web which forms the face of the paper, it is much better calculated for taking a fine impression. This admirable invention has put nearly a total stop to the importation of French paper, which was formerly used in considerable quantities by copper-plate printers.

We now come to the new edition of Adam Smith, a work worthy of the intelligence of the editor, if, indeed, we should not call him the author, in consequence of the quantity of original and valuable information he has added to his great prototype. Wherever national economy is studied, the Scottish philosopher must be held in the highest estimation, as one who first opened the eyes of mankind to many of the most important truths connected with the science; and when we consider the changes that have occurred, and the many new and strong lights which the progress of society during half a century has cast upon the subject, we cannot but be glad to see the next place taken, and in the same pages, by one so justly entitled to go hand in hand with the learned expositor of statistics in 1784. The whole of Mr. McCulloch's notes and opinions (whether we subscribe to them or question them) are extremely appropriate; and the variety of reading as well as of acute observation which he has brought to illustrate the text, either to point out fallacies or enlarge on truths, are worthy of his universal reputation. That he may himself, however, fall into mistakes and false estimates and expectations, is only to prove the proverb, *humanum est errare*. Thus he assures us,

"Nothing can be more correct than the estimate formed by Dr. Smith of the value of degrees conferred by teachers, that is, of the value of the estimate of their own handiwork. Such degrees must necessarily be, in general, worse than useless, and are frequently, indeed, coveted merely as convenient cloaks, under which quackery and ignorance may best prey on the public. But it is not of the essence of the thing that degrees should be granted on this absurd principle. Competent judges, unconnected with the business of education, may be found to ascertain the qualifications of the candidates for literary and scientific distinctions; and, supposing this to be done, the question as to the value of degrees will be very different. The recently established University of London is, we be-

lieve, the first institution founded in Europe for the examination of the candidates for degrees, whose members have no connexion with the education of the applicants to honours; and, if we mistake not, its formation will mark the commencement of a new and important era in the history of education. It consists not of a body of professors, but of a board of gentlemen, distinguished by their proficiency in literature, science, and philosophy, appointed by government for the examination of candidates for degrees."

We believe there never was a more complete failure. Mr. M. is equally strong against the Poor-Law Amendment Act as against the English University practices. He says:

"It was a measure of a bold and decided character; and we need not wonder that the changes it has been the means of introducing should have occasioned a great deal of dissatisfaction, and that very conflicting opinions should be entertained with respect to it. But though much of the clamour raised against this law has been most unfounded, and though some important practical reforms have been effected through its instrumentality, still we cannot help thinking, that it is a measure of very questionable policy. That a great and radical change was necessary in the administration of the poor-laws, no one doubts; but it seems pretty evident that it might and should have been accomplished by establishing properly constituted vestries, or other parochial bodies, to which to commit the management of the poor, and by putting an end to all interference on the part of the justices. The radical defect of the poor laws has been that their administration was not vested exclusively or principally in those on whom the burden of the rates really fell; but that it was conceded to justices, or rate-payers who might be, and, in fact, generally were, occupiers only and not owners. Had the latter had the entire administration of the law, no abuse of any considerable magnitude could have crept into it, or, at all events, it could not have long escaped detection. To suppose that it should be otherwise, is to suppose what is contradictory and absurd. It is equivalent to supposing that the self-interest of the parties is not of all means that can be devised the most likely to secure vigilance and to prevent abuse. Landlords and people of property in England have made the most extraordinary efforts to keep down the rates on their estates, and to prevent the splitting of farms and the building of cottages. That they did not attend parish meetings is no proof of their inattention to their interests; but of the vicious constitution of these bodies where the vote of any individual, though steeped in poverty, provided he were a rate-payer, counterbalanced that of the proprietor of the entire parish. The remedy for the abuses of the poor laws was extremely simple, and, one should think, obvious. Reform, or, if necessary, suppress vestries—give property its proper influence—take from justices all power to interfere in the concerns of the poor, and leave the rest to the self-interest of the parties. This system has been found completely successful in Scotland, where there is no room or ground for thinking that it would be less so in England. In Scotland, the affairs of the poor are managed by the heritors (proprietors), and kirk sessions. The latter, to which the administrative details are always confided, consist of the ministers and elders of the different parishes; the elders uniformly almost comprising some of the leading proprietors and most respectable inhabitants. The decisions of the heritors and kirk sessions are not permitted to be interfered with by justices, nor even by sheriffs, and can be reviewed only by the court of session, which is very chary of interference. In consequence of this wise and simple arrangement, the most admirable economy has prevailed in all that relates to the treatment of the poor; and while real want has been relieved, no encouragement has been afforded to sloth, imposture, or misconduct. But had parish meetings and justices of the peace had the same influence in Scotland that they have had in England, does any one suppose that the principle of compulsory provision would not have been as much abused there as here? It is not owing to any superior discernment or 'hard heartedness' on the part of the Scotch, but to the different mode in which relief has been administered, that the abuses so prevalent on one side the Tweed are unknown on the other. Hence, though the reason of the thing had not been sufficient to prove that by committing the administration of the poor laws to a properly constituted parochial body, would suffice to eradicate every abuse, the example of Scotland should have been held as decisive. And truly it is not a little singular, that in the teeth alike of the most obvious principles and the most conclusive experience, parliament should have supposed that a system that had answered so well in one end of the island was quite unsuitable for the other; and that stipendiary officers would be more likely to keep the rates low, or, which is the same thing, to take better care of the estates and properties of the gentlemen of England than they could do themselves! The system carrying the rage for interference to an extent which Dr. Smith would not have believed possible."

A number of other sensible suggestions and observations are offered on this important subject; but we can only afford room for these very short extracts, and refer to the work itself, which ought to stand, as it probably will, in every book-case where useful knowledge is sought or cultivated.

The three pamphlets we have named must also be briefly dismissed. Mr. Atkinson's is an able exposition, and is distinguished by some biting attacks on McCulloch's "Dictionary of Commerce," and other writings. Mr. Ashurst argues forcibly against the new bankruptcy laws; and Mr. Sankey contends for abundant issues of paper money, as a source of unlimited production, the only true and great wealth of a country and its people.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Elements of Theology. By C. Lyell, Esq., F.R.S., &c. 12mo. pp. 543. Murray.

An admirable companion to Mr. Lyell's "Principles of Geology;" and one in which the elements of the science are set in a most perspicuous light. The four great classes of rocks—aqueous, volcanic, plutonic, and metamorphic, are laid down as the frame-work of our globe's crust, or surface; and then their composition and stratification, fossils, and various forms and properties, are shewn; their age, processes, and periods of formation, and all other characteristic features and divisions, are explained with the best lights which accumulating knowledge enables its zealous followers to direct upon this captivating science. To the latest observations of Mr. Murchison, Mr. Darwin, and others, Mr. Lyell confesses his obligation for new materials in guiding him to the adoption of an enlarged system.

A Vindication of the Book of Genesis, &c. by the Rev. Fowler de Johnstone, Writer on Divinity. 8vo. pp. 248. (London, Groombridge: Simpkin and Marshall).—Our author, with the strange assumption that "Writing" seems to be exceedingly wild and enthusiastic; and that is all we can say about this *Vindication of Genesis*, supporting it by one extract:—

"And the earth was without form and void: and darkness was upon the face of the deep: and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." In the first part of the verse it is said, the earth was without form and void; i.e. that the form, now full, was then empty, and unformed, in the lap of infinity; and darkness was upon the face of the deep: these truths guide the mind's eye to see, in soul-convincing light, that, although the eye of God saw and his Spirit in counsel proclaimed, there earth should be, that, yet, her body did not appear until the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, when material matter was by the Word created. Having been led to view the parent earth, a feeble, trembling, timorous mass, in the abyss of sorrow buried, cloaked in the night of helplessness, and that then it pleased him at whose bidding she assumed her form, in spirit to hover on her liquid flow, disposing her instinctive will, and causing her inclining, to embrace the luminary at the moment when light shone in her from the Word generating a body, to be called earth, though then unformed was her figure—a vacuum, being uncreated; from his eternity Jehovah in counsel holy named earth, though I am, the Almighty Generator, as yet had not to her bosom sent his creating luminary: therefore, as is seen in the second part, 'darkness was upon the face of the deep.' So that in the abyss of darkness trembling earth existed, first in chaotic confusion veiled, when God sent in the Word, his creative spirit forth, to give substance to the shadow, and kindle earth's innate fire; then, as may be read in the latter part of the verse, 'the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.' In the preceding parts of the verse it is said, 'the earth was without form and void,' i.e. unformed and empty; and that darkness was upon the face of the deep, when a ray of glory to illumine saith, 'And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters!'"

Demonstration of the Truth of Christianity, by Alex. Keith, D.D. Pp. 459. (Edinburgh, Whyte: London, Longman and Co.; Duncan; Whitaker and Co.; Simpkin and Co.; Hamilton and Co.; Nisbet and Co.; Glasgow, Collins; Montrose, Nichols).—This is a very excellent work: a better could not be put into the hands of young or old.

Dental Practice, by John Gray. Pp. 54.—A little book of this practitioner's practice.
Droak's Railroad Maps, from London to Liverpool. (Birmingham, Drake).—A nice companion for this route.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

JUNE 6. Mr. Murchison, vice-president, in the chair.—Several communications were read. 1. 'An Account of Spirolinites in Chalk and Chalk-flints,' by the Marquess of Northampton, F.G.S. These microscopic fossils were found

by the author principally in Sussex, and in some localities in great abundance, accompanied by innumerable minute fragments of small corals and other organic bodies. They occur more frequently in the gray than black flints; but in nearly every instance the shelly matter of the spirocline is of a lighter colour than the ground of the flint, or the filling up of the chambers. The fossil is seldom procured perfect, the prolonged or straight portion being generally detached from the spiral. One perfect specimen obtained in France, measured about a third of an inch in length. Though it is extremely difficult to determine specific differences in minute fossils, seldom exposed but by accidental fracture in a flint, yet the paper contained a list of six species, one of which Mr. Mantell had previously called *Spirocline Comptonii*; and the other five the Marquess of Northampton has distinguished by the names of *S. Bucklandii*, *S. Murchisonii*, *S. Stokesii*, *S. Mantelli*, and *S. Lyelli*. It was also mentioned, that Mr. Walter Mantell, and the Rev. Gerard Smith, had found considerable numbers of spiroclines in Sussex.—2. 'A Note to accompany Specimens of Quicksilver Ore from the Mine of San Onofre, near the Town of El Doctor, Mexico,' by John Taylor, Esq. Treas. G.S. In consequence of the great consumption of quicksilver in Mexico, and the price of this metal in Europe having been recently doubled, the commissioners of the Real del Monte and Balaños Mining Companies directed researches to be made in those districts where it was known to exist. Ores of quicksilver have consequently been traced in localities very remote from each other; but Mr. Taylor confined his observations to the point from which the specimens presented to the Society were obtained. The mine of San Onofre is said to be in a regular vein, which is from two to three yards in width, and intersects a calcareous hill of considerable height. The gangue is chiefly carbonate of lime, with sulphate of barytes, and a small portion of silice. The ore is chiefly in the state of cinnabar, partly hepatic; but native quicksilver occurs in some specimens, and more rarely, native calomel. When separated imperfectly from the matrix, a sample produced forty per cent of quicksilver. Other veins, containing indications of quicksilver, have been since observed near San Onofre; and preparations are making to pursue trials upon the whole, under the direction of Captain Rule.—3. 'Remarks on the Formation of Obsidian in the Mountains of Real del Monte, Mexico, extracted from Letters addressed to Mr. J. Taylor, by Mr. Frederic Edmonds.' In the Cerro, a mountain about half a mile from the ancient Obsidian Mines, Mr. Edmonds states, that that rock may be observed passing from a perfect glass to a trachytic sandstone, containing small pisolitic bodies similar to those which exist in true obsidian. Although no good section is exposed, the rocks are known to occur in irregular vertical beds. Mr. Edmonds melted a mass of the trachytic sandstone, and obtained a glass similar in appearance to obsidian; he, therefore, infers, that the latter has been produced by the fusion of the former. Mr. Edmonds also mentioned, in a communication to Mr. Taylor, that in the Real del Monte mines, he had observed a general increase of temperature downwards corresponding to about 1° Fah. for every 69 feet.—4. 'A Notice of the Oar's Rock in the British Channel,' by Mr. Murchison. During a short residence at Little Hampton, the author's attention was attracted to the revolving light at the Oar's Rock, about nine miles distant; and, being desirous of ascer-

taining what formation could exist at that point, he procured, by the assistance of a friend, a specimen of the rock. He found it to be a calcareous sandstone, unlike that of Bognor, or any other bed above the chalk, but very similar to some of the strata in the green sands, or the Portland series below that formation. The Oar's Rock, however, does not accord with the regular position of any of the latter deposits; and Mr. Murchison, therefore, inferred, as it is situated between the parallels of disturbance which traverse the Wealden of Sussex on the north, and the Isle of Wight on the south, that it may be due to the irregular protrusion of some of the green sand or Portland strata. He notices, likewise, the earthquake so frequently felt at Chichester, situated between the hills of Portsdown and Highdown, and shewn by Mr. Martin to have been protruded through overlying tertiary strata.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, 7th August.—Read, 'Observations respecting the regular Variations and other Motions of the Magnetic Needle,' by W. Leithead, Esq., who considers electricity to be two distinct powers between which no physical analogy has been proved to exist. The variation in the direction of the needle, he states, to be an indirect effect of electrical action, depending upon a disturbance, or temporary counteraction of the magnetic power, by the electric power; and observes that, when the magnetic intensity is at its maximum, the electric intensity is at its minimum; and, at the same time, the air attains its maximum diurnal intensity. Viewed as isolated facts, these phenomena appear as unintelligible as they are curious; but, if considered in connexion with each other, the author thinks them of great importance, inasmuch as they appear to afford a glimpse of a new law upon the operation, of which the phenomena are dependent. The following is Mr. Leithead's view of the subject, "that the intensity of the earth's magnetism is temporarily increased and diminished by phenomena depending upon electrical action." The annual change, supposed to depend on the position of the sun, in reference to the equinoctial and solstitial points, the diurnal variations of magnetic intensity, from which we have selected the foregoing elucidation of Mr. Leithead's views, the variations observed during the appearance of aurora,—thunder-storms, and other phenomena depending upon electrical action—were severally considered in support of his opinion. The paper evinced much care, study, and intelligence, but in our mind produced no inducement to advocate the divorce of the recent and promising union of electricity and magnetism. After a discussion on the foregoing paper, Mr. Maughan communicated his progress in the very important experiment, having for its object the liquefaction of one or both of his gases constituting water. He generates the gases in a strong sealed tube by means of galvanism, and thus exposes them to their own pressure. He was encouraged to hope, that in his future experiments he should be more successful; and he would, from time to time, bring the future stages of his progress before the Society. We reserve our report.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

FRIDAY, 3d August.—J. E. Gray, Esq. F.R.S. president, in the chair.—After the ordinary business, the secretary read Mr. D. Cooper's notes on *Ranunculus flammula*, together with observations on some varieties, which he had

found, of that plant; also, a paper, by Mr. Cooper, containing an interesting account of a botanical excursion made by some members of the Society to the neighbourhood of Woking Common, Surrey, and remarks on the plants to be found about that district.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.
GREEK ANTIQUITIES.

M. RAOUL ROCHETTE, entrusted with an archaeological mission into Greece, has addressed a letter to the Minister of Public Instruction, which has been published in the "Journal de Paris," and of which the following is the substance:

"Athens, May 27th, 1838.

"SIR,—I have delayed writing to you, thinking my stay at Athens would afford me a fit opportunity for communicating some particulars of my journey, which might be interesting to you.

"You are aware, that I intended to repair direct to Athens, and thought I should reach my journey's end the more rapidly were I to take my passage in one of our steam-packets. Such, however, was not the case. Arrived at Syra, I should have been obliged to have joined a vessel from Alexandria; and, consequently, subject to a ten days' quarantine at the Pireus. Now, it seemed very hard that I should lose ten days in a lazaretto, as if I came from Egypt instead of France; and to commence a voyage from the East by a quarantine, when that should be its termination. I therefore preferred remaining these ten days in Syra; and endeavoured to employ my time in such a manner, that it should not be wholly lost to the objects of my mission. Syra, the Syrus of the ancients, and the country of Pherecydes, is an island which never obtained either importance or celebrity in former times, and owes the kind of retrograde prosperity it now enjoys to very recent events; thus, though, from being situated in the centre of the Cyclades, it is the route to all the sea-ports of the Levant, yet travellers only remain here so long as is absolutely required for procuring a vessel to transport them in a new direction. Most travellers, *savans* and others, who land at Syra, only pass through it, never inquiring what may be curious. As I had nothing else to do during the ten days I had to sojourn there, I owe to this circumstance my knowledge of a collection of antique marbles recently formed at Syra, some of them of that place, and others from the neighbouring islands; which marbles have, till now, remained, I believe, not only without there being any account of them, but even unknown in Syra. They consist of inscriptions and basso-reliefs, principally of funeral subjects. Some of the basso-reliefs appear to me to be worthy of publicity, and I had drawings of them taken by an architect, M. Morey, who accompanied me, at the same time that I copied the inscriptions, all in Greek. One of these, belonging to the ancient republic of Syrus, is curious and important in more than one respect. Indeed I recognised it to be the pedestal of a statue in honour to the Emperor Adrian, undoubtedly brought from Delos;—a beautiful antique marble still bearing the Greek dedication in all its integrity. This pedestal has been recently converted into a font, and placed at an angle of the portico around the principal church. A still more interesting circumstance is, that there exists in some parts of the town, indeed on the rock on which it is seated, remains of inscriptions, which would well repay any researches. Permit me to give you an

example, which will most assuredly be interesting to antiquaries; it is an inscription,

ATHÉNAS
PHRA

which is engraved in beautiful Attic characters on the naked rock, at a part of the town called the "Five Mills." If I am not mistaken, the letters PHRA are the commencement of the word *Phratia*, a surname which Minerva (*Athéna*), according to Plato, bore particularly at Athens; or else, these letters, connected with the word *Phration*, indicate the site of the ancient Phratium, that is to say, the locality in which the members of the Phratia assembled, or of the religious association formed under the auspices of Minerva Phratia (*Athéna Phratia*). In either point of view, the inscription in question, thus engraved on the rock in Attic letters of a remote date, is new and interesting. On the same rock, at some distance, and in similar characters, are the letters NOS, which must be the end of the name *Apollo NOS*; and they reminded me of a passage in Plato, to which I shall refer hereafter, and in which he speaks of the homage rendered by the Ionians, and particularly the Athenians, in common to *Apollo Patroús*, and *Minerva Phratia*: I could not avoid recognising a monument of this double worship in these two fragments of inscriptions on the rock of Syra. I have not leisure to follow out these ideas, nor have I the books which would be necessary to support them: but this example, presented to me at the very commencement of my journey, appeared to me to be worthy of being pointed out to you, were it only as a proof of the attention every where required when on the soil of Greece; and yet Tournefort, the correct and judicious Tournefort, who traversed the Cyclades on a botanic excursion, had passed it by. I have, besides, employed my stay at Syra in an equally useful manner, by making a short excursion to Myconi and Delos. In the first of these isles I found more than one curious monument to draw and describe, and acquired a beautiful Greek inscription for our collection of antiques, engraved on the two faces of a piece of red marble. This marble came from Delos, and the inscription is of a fine epoch, as well as of a new and interesting subject. I likewise copied some inscriptions at Delos, and have commenced some researches, which I shall conclude on my next visit. But the mass of ruins which cover almost the entire soil of the sacred isle, is so considerable, that it would require the lapse of months, and a hundred workmen to dig continually, in order to exhume so many buried monuments to view. But this is a task that only a government can undertake; and it is an enterprise I have taken the liberty of recommending to King Otho, who proposes to excavate at Delphos, and who would certainly not find fewer treasures at Delos.

"I must now speak of Athens, at least as far as I have seen; but here again the matter is so rich and so abundant, that though I have only been at work for a fortnight, I should have almost a volume to write. You are aware that the Acropolis was the sanctuary of ancient art, as well as of the Athenian religion, and that it is there, notwithstanding all the revolutions and disasters which have afflicted and destroyed Athens, the most beautiful monuments probably ever executed by mortal hand are still to be found. By a chance, which one can hardly admire enough, these monuments had scarcely suffered at all during the last war, in which the Acropolis served as the field of battle between the Greeks, who were in possession of it, and

the Turks, whose batteries were erected in the neighbouring hills of the Museum and Pnyx. But since Athens has become the capital of Greece, the Acropolis has been made, in its turn, the particular object of the care of a government, which cannot be ignorant that the monuments and recollections of ancient Greece are among the first objects of interest which *learned Europe* takes in the destinies of the modern country. Their labours commenced with the removal of all the barbarous obstructions that encumbered the avenues of the Acropolis. The three Turkish batteries erected at different heights on the steps, and in the very bosom of the Propylæa, have been demolished; the walls which surrounded the columns of the *façades* of the Propylæa have been destroyed: in fact, it may be said that the ancient soil has every where triumphed over the barbarism which had possessed it; and now one may traverse without obstacle, and study without difficulty, in all its details, the magnificent vestibule of the Acropolis, which, ancient orators, in the utter want of words to express their admiration, could only compare to the Parthenon, and which they were pleased to associate with it, with as much enthusiasm as if they had both been conceived by the same brain. But not only are the Propylæa at present free, and without any foreign construction; still more has been achieved: in order to restore them as soon as possible to their primitive state, much of the rubbish of the architectural elements of the Propylæa has been removed, which had been employed as materials in the Turkish fortifications. Some of these elements have been already restored to their places; others, which will be, are lying on the ground where they can be measured with greater facility, and studied very closely: so that it is to be hoped that, ere long, the Propylæa will be reclaimed from that state to which they have been so long reduced. Among the most interesting appearances which have very recently resulted from this double work of demolishing and restoring, I must particularly notice the little Temple of Victory without wings, which had so long been a problem to antiquaries, as much as the Propylæa themselves, buried in Turkish buildings, had remained a mystery. This little temple is now found entire, with its four columns on both its *façades*, and with the walls of its *cella* on three of its sides. Each block of marble marked with the imprint of the time of Pericles, has been brought from the middle of a mass of masonry, and restored to its ancient place. The sculptures of the frieze have likewise been found; these had very happily escaped the hand of Lord Elgin, as they were hidden, like unheaven stones, in a modern wall: the only service the Turks could render to antiquity.

"The Temple of Victory without wings, will thus soon be re-established in all its integrity: all that is wanting are the four fragments of the frieze which are now in London; and England, which has reaped the fruits of Lord Elgin's operations, will certainly not refuse to restore to the Greeks the plaster in her possession, which would allow of the entire frieze being recomposed. I have had a drawing made, with the greatest care, of this precious monument of the time of Pericles, unexpectedly restored in our own. I have tried to do more, by asking from the king, for our museum, a model of the plasters of the basso-relievo recently found. His majesty was pleased to inform me, that it was his intention to offer a collection of them to the French government; but architecture not being included in the projected mission, I have procured the Ionic

capital, with its base; and it is a present which will, I am sure, be received with gratitude by our School of the Fine Arts, in which these precious remains of a Greek and Ionic order, so pure and elegant, will so justly take their place in our gallery of architecture. I will likewise procure models of the capital and base of the Ionic order of the interior portico of the Propylæa, which are in all respects most interesting remains of the history of ancient art, restored almost intact by the last excavations. In fact, in order to complete this series of examples, all of the highest class, imprinted on the finest monuments of Grecian antiquity, it is also my intention to get models of two of the Ionic capitals of the Erechtheion, a double temple with a double portico, a veritable wonder of ancient art, in the composition of which there are three different Ionic orders, of which I believe we only possess one specimen in our architectural gallery.

"In the state in which the Propylæa are at present, with the Temple of Victory without wings in front of the left wing, and the Pinacothèque, which forms the right wing, and only wants the ceiling, and of which the four admirably fitted walls have been found intact, — I have been able to raise whole and in details this superb vestibule of the Acropolis in a manner which, I have no hesitation in saying, will surpass all the works from the time of Stuart to our own.

"As soon as we have completed our labours on the Propylæa, M. Morey and myself intend to undertake an examination of the Erechtheion, which is now almost wholly freed, and consequently, in a state in which it could not have been seen by any of the antiquaries and architects who have preceded us. But by means of what has been already restored to its place, and what is lying on the ground, a more correct and complete architectural study of the Erechtheion may be now made than has ever yet been effected; and this result of my voyage, were it the only one, executed with all the care and talent Mr. Morey could, and has bestowed on it, will certainly be of great interest to science.

"The Parthenon has also, of late years, occupied the cares of the Greek government, but unhappily without its being in the power of this government, or any one in the world, to repair the frightful losses this monument has suffered; and of which you, as well as the whole of Europe, are aware, the most cruel, and still the most sensible, are not those which it owes to the cannons of the Venetian, or the barbarity of the Turks. The mosque erected in a part of the *cella* of the Parthenon, will soon disappear, but the sculptures removed from the pediment and frieze by Lord Elgin, will never come back: and here is a frightful void, which is every where felt, and more so at Athens than elsewhere.

"In order to repair as much as possible the losses sustained in this manner, excavations are being made in the masses of rubbish which still cover the soil and avenues of the Parthenon, and four fragments of the frieze, probably the most beautiful in existence, have happily been found, and, though long buried in the ruins of the edifice, they have not suffered from attacks of age or barbarism. These fragments are really *chefs-d'œuvre*, all four being of different subject and character. I have made careful drawings of them, and have obtained King Otho's promise, that plasters of these admirable basso-relievos should be offered to the French government, and sent to Paris at the same time as those of the frieze of the

Temple of Victory. Paris will thus soon have fresh means of appreciating the art and taste of Phidias, from some of the most beautiful fragments of his chisel; and if this lesson is not lost, like many others, it ought to profit France as much as it will honour Greece. I should not forget to state that in an excavation opened last year at the south-east angle of the principal façade of the Parthenon, numerous fragments of the ancient temple of Minerva, burnt by the Persians, have been found at a depth of about twelve feet; they were undoubtedly buried by the Greeks themselves, as materials of no value, when they constructed the Parthenon under the administration of Pericles. But these fragments, nothing to ancient Greece, are at the present time precious remains of the history of art; they consist of tiles, called *antefaces*, of fragments of cornice and frieze, of burnt-coloured earth, which are authentic monuments of a taste for polychrome architecture; an archaeological question, of the greatest interest to artists and antiquaries. I have made drawings of all these fragments, with their colours exactly marked; and it is the first fruit of my researches in Greece, that I expect on my return to publish remarks, as those which will most directly benefit science, on one of the questions which is most before the archaeological public."

[The writer proceeds to state his future measures, to the accounts of which we shall pay that attention their interest may demand. —Ed. L. G.]

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Beauty and Star.—Two of her Majesty's State-horses, a black and a cream, lithographed by T. Boys, from a picture by Mr. R. R. Scanlan (published by Moon), are striking portraits of these remarkable and interesting animals, the former being twenty-three and the latter twenty-seven years old. They have adorned the majesty of four British sovereigns, and helped to bear George III., George IV., William IV., and Queen Victoria, to meet their assembled parliaments. They offer a lesson to grandeur, while they stand in their beauty and pride, and we ask, where are their once royal masters? The venerable third George, his splendid son and successor, and the gallant sailor-king, are all dead and gone; and their high place is filled by a youthful female, in whose slight and fair hand waves the sceptre of their dignity and power. It is almost painful to contemplate so heavy a charge as their imperial crown laid on a brow so young; and to think how much of the destinies of a people must depend upon the character of a monarch, whom nature would designate as more fit for pleasures and enjoyments than for the cares of government, or the severe duties of political judgment and decision. But be this as it may, there are the living symbols of the trappings which attend her public ceremonials; and we must say of them, that they look and become their station well.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE BIRD SONG.

As on the Ewell bank I strayed,
I thought, if birds had reasoning mind,
They'd bless the branch on which they played,
Rejoiced they were not human kind.
For yonder full sweet-throated bird
Has tuned the dull and heavy air;
And sweeter tones I never heard,
While I am doubly bent by care.

Oh, happy bird! who only seeks
The first green leaves to couch among;
Whose voice expressive music speaks,
And all he speaks to Heaven is song.

Thou well may'st flee at sight of me,
An alien to thy wild domain;
Mirth, merry minstrel, dwells with thee,
Thou would'st not sing with human pain.
P. SPENSER.

DRAMA.

Haymarket.—On Saturday, Mr. Serjeant Talfourd's tragedy of *The Athenian Captive* was produced at this house. Having, when the play was published, devoted some space to the criticism of its merits as a literary production, we have now only to see how far the author's conceptions have been worked out by the actors to whom the several parts have been entrusted, and how far its interest as a drama is likely to extend. Nothing can go beyond Mr. Macready's delineation of the Athenian, *Thaos*—his noble fearlessness in the early scenes—his passionate despair after the murder of *Creon*. Still, with all his skillful mastery of his art, the want of sufficient motive for the commission of the deed stands nakedly before the audience; and the moment in which he yields to the wild *Ismene* a promise to slay whomever he shall meet, shews an inconsistent weakness in the character, previously so firm, and consequently divests it of much of its interest. We need scarcely say the author's poetry loses nothing in Mr. Macready's delivery: there we can find no fault—for he wonderfully animates the classic marble of the Greek sculpture. The thrilling descriptions of his native Athens are most exquisite. *Ismene*, the queen of Corinth, is, if not the best, one of the best and most suitable parts we have seen Mrs. Warner perform: she has evidently studied it carefully; and, though occasionally unequal, it is but justice to say she delivers many passages with infinite effect: her personal appearance and fine voice are also suited to the part. On her and on Mr. Macready the success of the tragedy entirely depended, and it was decided. The other parts we could certainly have wished to see in better hands. Mr. Waldron makes but a respectable old king. Mr. E. Glover neither looks nor acts the "stripling" *Hyllus*; he is ineffective and heavy. Miss Taylor is too cold and unimpassioned in *Creusa*; a part, though slight, requiring tenderness and feeling. It is a sweetly sketched character, and we regret to see its beauty shaded by being almost formally walked through. Mr. Perkins is quiet and unobtrusive as the priest *Iphitus*; and the other parts were respectably filled by Messrs. Hemming, Gough, Worrell, &c., &c.

English Opera.—A slight drama, called *The Emigrant's Daughter*, was produced on Tuesday. There is nothing very striking in it; but the excellent acting of Compton, as a gentleman soldier, and of M'lan, as a Dutchman, together with its being short, render it an amusing trifle enough.

Strand.—Mr. W. J. Hammond is attracting in a clever sketch by Moncrieff, entitled, *More Jonathans*. We will pay attention to it next week.

Mr. Bunn has taken Drury Lane for the ensuing three years.

VARIETIES.

Murillo.—A public subscription is proposed to be opened at Seville, for a monument to the illustrious Spanish painter, Murillo.

Magnetic.—An American correspondent in our No. 1121, described the new remedial practices of Dr. Sherwood; and in the last journals we find the following on the same subject.

"The diseases he treats, are occasioned by an irregular action of the electro-galvanic forces which are inherent in the animal system, causing all its motions and functions. These forces he denominates repulsion and attraction, and, without their mutual co-operation, there can be no motion of animate or inanimate matter. Whilst they are reciprocally balanced, the whole mechanism of the human frame moves with regularity, and maintains its health. Irregular action of these forces produces disease in the organs, limbs, and other structures, in all the fearful variety belonging to the class already named. The doctor proves that the human frame is a natural galvanic battery; that the skin, and mucus, and serous membranes, are as the plates of zinc and copper in the machine, while the nerve acts as the conducting wires, &c. Upon this theory the doctor has contrived his remedies so as to restore the electro-galvanic forces of the diseased limb or organ to an equilibrium, and thus effect a cure. The remedies are pills and plaster. The pills are retained in a negative state of electricity, and act through the circulation, while the plaster, being positive, operates upon the diseased part through the intercommunicating nerves. The latter is placed where it has the most direct nervous communication with the diseased organ. That part of the skin to which it is applied having previously excreted a serous or negative fluid, will soon excrete a mucus or positive fluid, by which means the excessive tangential forces from the surface to the organs are controlled, and their equilibrium in the system restored."

Advice.—The same journal (*New York Whig*) had, in a preceding No., reprehended the sexton for suffering the clock to stop; and he returns to the matter, thus:—"Glad to hear it, Mr. Moore. We are happy to learn that the ancient and humorous sexton of St. Paul's is still 'this side up.' You regulate the clock—the clock regulates us. Ergo, &c.—you understand. We don't care about the time; not we, Mr. Moore: but, as 'hours were made for slaves,' we like to see the rascals get their allowance regularly."

Americanisms by the lost Papers.—Editor *Quarrels*—in *America*.—If he has anything to say (says one of the gladiators) let him "spit it out before it cuts his mouth," as mothers tell their children when they are chewing glass.

Great Heat.—The heat is so great at Boston, that no man buys less than fifteen gallons of drink at a time.

Boston Scientific Eminence.—The Bostonians do not say "end" any more. If a man falls down in the street, and you wish to help him up, you must not say "give me your hand," but, "by which terminus shall I raise you?"

New Medium of Instruction.—A journal is mentioned to be printed on India rubber: its principles will not be more elastic than those of its contemporaries in America or England.

New Word.—The American journals state that Lord Durham has *annested* Lord Gosford's rewards for the apprehension of traitors.

Roman Antiquities near Orleans.—A recent discovery confirms the opinion of many celebrated archaeologists, that ancient Genabum stood on the very spot on which is erected the town of Orleans. In the centre of the old town, some excavators struck, a few days ago, on a

pile of brick-work, which, to all appearance, must formerly have been part of a furnace for heating water; near it were also discovered some pipes, and also some remnants of fresco painted walls, which may have been those of a bath-house. The building seems to have been destroyed by fire, as the ruins were buried in a thick layer of cinders. Several weights, vases, and Roman coins, in beautiful preservation, were also dug up.—*Paris Advertiser*.

Académie Royale.—*Benevenuto Cellini*, by Messrs. de Wailly, Auguste Barbier, et Berlioz, is in full rehearsal, and will be presented to the public early in August. Duprez, Wartel, Dupont, and Alizard, will take the principal parts. The next novelty will be *la Sœur des Fées*, by Auber, for Mlle. Nau, which will appear in February. A new opera, by the author of the *Huguenots*, and a two-act opera, *la Vendetta*, by De Ruolz, are also in preparation.—*Ibid.*

The Foreign Quarterly has justly attracted the attention of the press, and we ought, before now, to have expressed our great approbation of the July No. which is, we believe, under new editorship. It does infinite credit to the learning and ability bestowed upon it; and we shall be glad, at a future opportunity, to particularise its leading merits, especially in articles upon language and Egyptian antiquities.

Capt. Burnes.—We observe, with pleasure, from the "Gazette," that the honour of knighthood and the local rank of lieutenant-colonel have been conferred on the great Eastern traveller, now Lieut.-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes. The queen and the government could not have bestowed a mark of favour on one more deserving in literature, and we may now, perhaps, add, in diplomacy.

Andrew Crosse.—A lithographic portrait, after F. Lane (publisher, M^rLean), is a striking likeness of this gentleman, who has made, and probably will make, a yet greater noise in the world of natural science. Whatever he may produce of insect life out of the dead matter of centuries, this head is so full of intelligence that no one can expect ever to find a bee in his bonnet.

The Wellington Statue.—Some wags, we are informed, are trying to bring this design into ridicule, by mounting a big wooden horse on the top of the arch at Hyde Park Corner. We are glad to see the conspiracy against Mr. Wyatt at last evaporating in fun of this sort; which reminds us of the Arabian tales, if not of Homer's "Iliad," and the fall of Troy. We only hope that the magicians in this affair know how to turn the peg, that they may not only get off the horse, but themselves, in a creditable style.

Music.—An address has been issued from the Gresham professors of music, urging the expediency for forming an institution for the fundamental study of the musical art. The treasures in composition, which might be collected in such an establishment as a musical library, is strongly insisted on as a prominent measure; and Gresham College, with its endowments for music, is pointed out as offering an eligible adjunct and local habitation for this laudable design.

No. I. The Wonders of the World in Nature, Art, and Mind, edited by H. Ince (Grattan), is one of those cheap collections of curious matter, which is very amusing and very instructive. The ante-diluvian animals, extraordinary volcanoes, tree-lobsters, porcelain towers, &c., &c., described from books not popularly accessible, make capital subjects for penny literature, and penny plates.

Illustrations of Nicholas Nickleby, edited by "Boz." Nos. I. and II. (same publisher) seem to be pillaged, in some features, from the prints in the original, and both in these and what is added, to be very indifferent embodiments of the author's humour or character.

No. I. of Posthumous Papers of the Wonderful Discovery Club, is a good idea, if humorously wrought out. We shall see how it goes on.

Bayadères.—A party of these celebrated eastern dancers have visited Europe. They landed at Bordeaux, and gave a taste of their qualities, to the astonishment and delight of a French audience.

The Sail of Intellect.—The Brussels papers state that a M. Jobard has invented a safety-boat, impelled by a pyrotechnical composition, of which chlorate of potash is the basis, and so rapid in movement that it will convey its passengers across the straits of Dover in eleven minutes!

Cœur de Lion.—It is mentioned in a French journal, that the statue of Cœur de Lion which, of old, adorned his tomb, has been discovered under a mosaic pavement in the cathedral at Rouen. It is six and half feet in length, and represents Richard in a recumbent posture, with his feet resting on a lion couchant.

Steam-Barge.—A steam-barge voyage has been performed between London and Oxford. The paddle-wheel is in the stern, and other contrivances are introduced to facilitate river navigation and the passage of locks, &c. The time is not stated.

Earthquake in Scotland.—The shock of an earthquake was felt on the night of Monday, the 30th of July, at Turrieff, which threw down a part of the churchyard wall. Only one similar event is remembered by the oldest inhabitants of the place.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Sir Robert Comyn.—Sir Robert Comyn, the chief justice of Madras, has written a book, the 'History of the Western Empire,' in two volumes, royal octavo, beginning with Charlemagne, and going down to the final conquest of the Eastern empire, and the overthrow of the Greek emperors. We are told, for we have not yet seen the work, that it displays much learning, but that the style is too Gibbonian, abounding in antithesis, and loaded with that majesty of phrase well becoming the dignity of the muse of history and the gravity of the bench.—*Calcutta Courier*, March 31.—*Purbury's Oriental Herald*.

New French Journal.—We have received, says the 'Madras Spectator,' May 5th, the first copy of 'Le Courrier de Pondichéry,' a weekly journal established at the neighbouring French settlement of which it bears the name. It is the first newspaper that has ever, so we understand, appeared at Pondichéry.—*Ibid.*

New Malacca Newspaper.—A prospectus of a new newspaper, to be entitled the 'Weekly Register,' had been issued (March) at Malacca.—*Ibid.*

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Speeches of Henry, Lord Brougham, upon Public Rights, Duties, and Interests, with Historical Introductions, &c. 4 vols. 8vo. 2l. 8s.—Demonstration of the Truth of the Christian Religion, by Alex. Keith, D.D. 12mo. 7s. 6d.—Mendelssohn's Jerusalem, a Treatise on Ecclesiastical Authority and Judaism, translated by M. Samuels, 2 vols. 8vo. 50s.—Poems and Songs, Humorous and Satirical, by Alex. Rodger, 12mo.—Poems, by Eliza Mary Hamilton, post 8vo. 3s.—A Description of Blenheim, the Seat of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, 12th edition, 8vo. 6s.—My Three Aunts, &c. &c., by Mrs. Jeran, 1s. 6d.—Draper's Bible Story-Book, Third Series, 1s. 6d.—Condensed Discourses; or, Pulpit Help, by a Minister, 12mo. 4s. 6d.—Observations on the Negligencies, by R. Baile, M.D. royal 8vo. 15s.—Plante Javanicae Rariores, by Dr. Horsfield, &c. Part I. 4to. 2l. 10s.—Journal of an Expedition from Singapore to Japan, by Dr. P. Parker, revised by the Rev. A. Reed, D.D. 12mo. 2s. 6d.—A New Illustration of Daniel's Last Vision and Prophecy, by J. Farquharson, 5s. 6d.—Physiological Observations on Mental Susceptibility, by T. B. Johnson, 12mo. 6s. 6d.—The Shooter's Preceptor, by T. B. Johnson, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—New Orders of the High Court of Chancery, by J. Cooke, 12mo. 5s.—Thoughts on the Responsibility of Man, by Emma Mack, fcap. 3s. 6d.—Scripture Catechism, by E. W. 18mo. 2s.—The Dying Soldier, a Tale, by the Rev. W. Sinclair, 18mo. 1s. 6d.—

The Book of Psalms, arranged for Family Devotion, 8vo. 10s. 6d.; imperial 8vo. 31s.—Letters from Ireland, by Charlotte Elizabeth, post 8vo. 8s. 6d.—Calvin's Christian Institutes, by John Allen, 2 vols. 8vo. new edition, 77s.—The Child's Botany, 2s.—An Essay on Ringworm, by A. Paul, M.D. 6s.—Elements of Geology for Beginners, by C. Lyell, 12mo. 10s. 6d.—An Essay on the Use of the Spirit Level, by T. O. Blackett, 8vo. 8s.—Lectures on Theology, by the Rev. J. Dick, 3d edition, 4 vols. 8vo. 30s.—The Steam-Engine, by Hugo Reid, fcap. 4s.—Companion to the Altar, revised and arranged by the Rev. T. Dale, fcap. 4s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1838.

August.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 2	From 57 to 67	29.60 .. 29.68
Friday... 3	... 57 .. 68	29.66 .. 29.73
Saturday... 4	... 60 .. 68	29.64 .. 29.59
Sunday... 5	... 53 .. 68	29.55 .. 29.51
Monday... 6	... 56 .. 69	29.48 .. 29.47
Tuesday... 7	... 52 .. 67	29.38 .. 29.71
Wednesday 8	... 52 .. 67	29.91 .. 30.07

Wind, S.W.

Generally clear, except the 3d, 4th, and 6th, when rain fell.

Rain fallen, .525 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Latitude... 51° 37' 33" N.

Longitude... 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the Meteorological Society. July 1838.

Thermometer—Highest..... 77.75 .. the 13th.

Lowest..... 54.00 .. the 24th.

Mean..... 56.0543

Barometer—Highest..... 29.99 .. 18th.

Lowest..... 29.33 .. 29th.

Mean..... 29.61946

Number of days of rain, 12.

Quantity of rain in inches and decimals, 1.7975.

Winds.—1 North-East—0 East—1 South-East—5 South

—8 South-West—9 West—4 North-West—3 North.

General Observations.—This was the coldest July that has occurred since 1829; taking the mean as the criterion, the minima were lower in 1833 and 1836, but the range was greater, and the maxima higher in those years. The barometer was very unsteady, having changed eighty-nine times in the course of the month; but the range was small, and the mean was lower than any, in the same month, since 1829; the barometer, therefore, accorded with the temperature in similarity to that year, but the quantity of rain was not great, although more than in last year. Thunder was heard, and lightning seen on the 6th and 29th; on the former of those days, the storm, which was for some time severe, commenced about half-past 6 A.M., and continued for upwards of an hour.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

✉ To Correspondents, &c.—At this season of the year it is most expedient that all communications for the Literary Gazette should be sent as early as possible in the week.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—The General Steam Navigation Company have most promptly and handsomely sent a fine steamer, *The Ocean*, from Edinburgh, to convey members of the Association from London to Newcastle, at the end of next week. We expect to meet many friends on board, at Blackwall, at ten o'clock on Thursday night; and feel assured, that many will thank us for this intimation of so direct and well-tempered a conveyance.

✉ Novelties have pressed upon our Review so much this week, that we have been obliged (and not very reluctantly) to postpone the continuation of Urquhart's, Polack's, and other interesting travels.

We cannot decide "A B C's" question, Lingard's History has been charged by Protestant critics, with the suppression of truths and the mutilation of authorities, for Romish views; nevertheless, it is acknowledged by all to be valuable for its research. With regard to the portion of history which Mackintosh wrote, we have never heard of any grave charges against it.

VINUS CONJECTURES.—We are amused with the following letter, which we have just received, and insert it verbatim.—*Ed. L. G.*

SIR,—Considering what we read in the last verses of the ninth chapter of Genesis, one should think the honour of being the first drunkard must remain with Noah. And what do we read there? Noah planted a vineyard, and he drank of the wine. This surely indicates that he did so before; but he was drunken. This is told without any other connected circumstance, and consequence; and yet, as a most extraordinary occurrence—as an event that shocked his family beyond what they ever saw before. Might one, then, not question whether the ante-diluvian grape had at first, perhaps before the flood, no intoxicating effect on the human constitution? or whether this was now not strong enough to bear its vigorous influence, on account of the shortened period of human life? or, what is still more likely, whether the juice of the grape had not from that, by storm, hail, rain, and constant changing weather,—and even from that by the flood-deteriorated soil—inbibed a never-before-known unfavourable, and thus intoxicating quality?

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

CLOSING OF THE PRESENT EXHIBITION.
BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.

The Gallery, with a Selection of Pictures by Italian, Spanish, Flemish, Dutch, and French Masters, is open daily, from Ten in the Morning until Six in the Evening, and will be closed on Saturday, the 25th Instant.

Admission 1s.—Catalogue 1s.

WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

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